THE HISTORY

Of the most Illustrious

WILLIAM, Prince of *ORANGE*:

Deduc'd from the

First Founders of the Ancient House

OF

NASSAU:

Together with the

Most Considerable Actions

OF THIS

Present PRINCE.

The Second Edition.

Printed in the Year 1689.

(First edn 1683 [illegible]
not in BM

Wing
H. Z171

Records 1 only (Yale)

William III, K[Biogr. etc. works]

1488 dc. 34

THE HISTORY

Of the most Illustrious

WILLIAM, Prince of *ORANGE*:

Deduc'd from the

First Founders of the Ancient House

OF

NASSAU:

Together with the

Most Considerable Actions

OF THIS

Present PRINCE.

The Second Edition.

Printed in the Year 1689.

TO HER
ROYAL HIGHNESS,
MARY
Princeſs of *ORANGE.*

May it pleaſe your Royal Highneſs,

AS there can be no fairer Proſpect in the World, than that of Tranſcending Vertue, and Glorious Enterprizes, I could not ſtudy a Landskip more proper for the View of your Royal Highneſs than the Splendid Actions and Heroick Atchievements of a Prince whoſe early Conqueſts, and the Luſter of an Ancient and Renowned Deſcent, repreſented him to the piercing Judgment of two Potent Monarchs, your Uncle of Bleſſed Memory, and your now Victoriouſly Reigning Father, the ſole Europæan *Hero, worthy the Addition of your Matchleſs and moſt Princely Endowments to his Fortunate Grandeur: As deem-*

ing none ſo fit for the Wonder of her Sex, *as the* Wonder of His Age.

The following Sheets, moſt Illuſtrious Princeſs, are only an Imperfect Eſſay, as being perhaps the firſt that has been made; which however have this moſt humbly to plead for themſelves, that they may prove an Incentive for ſome Politer Pens to Tranſmit thoſe things more Brightly and Copiouſly to Poſterity, which Brevity has here obſcur'd. For it cannot be thought that the Progreſs of ſo great a Prince's Fame can ever make a Halt, till your Royal Highneſs has liv'd long the Witneſs of what Heaven has ſtill Reſerv'd to Immortalize his Future Story. Such are the continu'd Prayers and Wiſhes of,

MADAM,

Your Royal Highneſs's

Moſt Humble, and

moſt Devoted Obſerver.

THE HISTORY

Of the moſt Illuſtrious *William* Prince of *Orange*.

MOſt certain it is, that the Houſe of *NASSAU* is one of the Greateſt, and moſt Ancient in all *Germany*. For beſides the Grandeur of Potent Alliances, the multiplicity of propagated Branches, and that it had the honour about four hundred years ago, to be grac'd with the Imperial Dignity, in the Perſon of *Adolphus* of *Naſſau*, Emperour of *Germany*, and Succeſſor to *Rodolphus* of *Habsburg*; it has alſo had this farther advantage, to have been eſtabliſh'd by ancient and undeniable Succeſſion of about ten entire Centuries: no leſs the Glory of the *Naſſovian* Family, than of the Signiory of *Venice*, that vaunts her Dominion fix'd upon the firm foundation of a thouſand years continuance.

OTHO, Count of *Naſſau*, who liv'd above ſix hundred years ago, had two Wives; the firſt of which brought him in Marriage the Country of *Guelders*, and the other the Province of *Zutphen*; which remain'd for above three Centuries in the poſſeſſion of the Houſe of *Naſſau*.

Afterwards, about three hundred years ſince, another Count *OTHO* of *Naſſau*, eſpous'd the Counteſs of *Vianden*, the Inheritrix and Miſtriſs of ſeveral other conſiderable Territories in the *Low Countries*.

His Grandchild *ENGILBERT* the firſt of that name, Count of *Naſſau*, eſpous'd the Heireſs of *Loeke* and *Breda*, in the year 1404. and was Grandfather to *ENGILBERT*, the Second, of *Naſſau*.

He was a Prince no leſs experienc'd in all the Arts of War, than in thoſe of Civil Government: he won the Battel of *Guinegaſt*, ſuppreſs'd and puniſh'd the Rebellion of *Bruges*, and was Governour-General of the *Low Countries* for the Emperour *Maximilian* the Firſt. He dy'd without Iſſue, leaving to his Brother *JOHN* of *Naſſau*, the Inheritance of all his Poſſeſſions.

This Count *John* had two Sons, *HENRY* and *WILLIAM*. To his Eldeſt Son *Henry* he gave in Portion all his Poſſeſſions in the *Low Countries*; and to *William* all his Demeans in *Germany*. This ſame *Henry* of *Naſſau* it was, to whom *Charles* the *Fifth* was beholding for his advancement to the Empire, by means of his active and powerful ſollicitations againſt *Francis* the Firſt, and who, upon the day of the Emperour's Coronation, ſet the Imperial Crown upon his head. Nevertheleſs, after the Peace was concluded between thoſe two Potent Princes, when the Emperour ſent him into *France* to do Homage for the Counties of *Flanders* and *Artois*, King *Francis*, out of an incredible generoſity forgetting what had paſs'd, match'd him to *Claudia de Chalon*, the only Siſter of *Philibert de Chalon*, Prince of *Orange*, and who had been bred up under Queen *Anne* of *Bretaigne*, her Mother-in-Law. By vertue of which Marriage, his only Son, *Reneus* of *Naſſau* and *Chalon*, came to be Prince of *Orange* after the deceaſe of his Uncle by the Mother's ſide, who dy'd without Iſſue.

WILLIAM Count of *Naſſau*, Brother to Count *Henry*, embrac'd the Reformed, and expell'd the Roman Catholick Religion out of his Dominions: and he it was, that was the Father of the Great *William* of *Naſſau*, who attain'd to be Prince of *Orange*, and Lord of all the Poſſeſſions of the Houſe of *Chalon*, by the laſt Will and Teſtament of *Reneus de Naſſau* and *Chalon*, his Couſin German, who being ſlain at the Siege of Saint *Diſier*, left no Children behind him.

True

True it is, that the Emperour *Charles* the Fifth, out of his acknowledgement of thoſe great Services which the Houſe of *Naſſau* had done him, was much troubled to ſee the young Prince *William* of *Naſſau* like to be ſo deeply tinctur'd in his Youth with Heretick Education, and therefore took him away, tho' not without great reluctancy, from his Father; kept him near his own Perſon, and gave him Tutors of his own chuſing, to inſtruct and ground him under his own Eye in the Principles of the Roman Catholick Religion; which he therefore profeſs'd in outward appearance, ſo long as *Charles* the Fifth liv'd, and for ſome time after, during the firſt years of King *Philip*'s Reign. But thoſe Reformed Tenents which he had ſuckt with his Mother's Milk, and afterwards more conſiderately taſted in the Court of *France*, where they were in no ſmall reputation, while he was there a Hoſtage for the obſervation of the Peace of *Chaſteau en Cambreſis*, had taken ſo deep a root in his mind, that they ſoon over-run the former forc'd Cultivations of his Youth.

Count *WILLIAM* of *Naſſau* by *Juliana* Counteſs of *Stolburg* had five Sons, and ſeven Daughters. The Eldeſt was *William* of *Naſſau*, a ſhort view of whoſe Life and Actions we are now about to ſet forth: the youngeſt was *John* of *Naſſau*, who left behind him a numerous and ample Poſterity. His three other Sons were *Lodowic*, *Adolphus*, and *Henry* of *Naſſau*, who highly ſignaliz'd themſelves, as well in the Civil Wars of *France*, as of the *Low Countries*; and who having never been marry'd, all three dy'd in the Field, generouſly fighting for the Liberty of their Country, and as courageouſly ſeconding the Noble Deſigns of their Eldeſt Brother Prince *William*.

The ſeven Daughters of *William* Count of *Naſſau*, were marry'd, the one to the Count of *Bergues*, and was Mother to Count *Henry* of *Bergues*, who afterwards commanded the Armies of *Spain* againſt his Couſin Germans, *Maurice* and *Henry Fredrick*, Princes of *Orange*; and who at length, growing ſuſpected to the *Spaniards*, quitted their Service. The other ſix were

marry'd to Soveraign Counts of *Germany*; and one among the reſt to the Count of *Schwarsbourg*, who had the misfortune to be preſent at *Antwerp*, when *John Javregny*, a *Biſcanyer*, ſhot the Prince of *Orange* her Brother into the Body with a Piſtol-bullet: as alſo at *Delph*, where he was at laſt moſt barbarouſly aſſaſſinated by *Balthaſar Guerard* of *Franche Conté*. For ſhe would never forſake her deareſt Brother, for whom ſhe had a moſt entire affection.

WILLIAM of *Naſſau*, Prince of *Orange*, was born in the year 1533. at the Caſtle of *Dillemburg* in the County of *Naſſau*. But the Emperour, as already has been related, having taken him away from his Father, to breed him up in the Roman Religion, deliver'd him to his own Siſter *Mary* Queen of *Hungary*, and ſo ſoon as his years permitted, made him Gentleman of his Bed-Chamber, in which ſtation he contin'u'd nine years, always near the Emperour's perſon, who all along admir'd the greatneſs of his Wit, accompany'd with an extraordinary Modeſty. And in a ſhort time made thoſe diſcoveries of a more than common *Genius*, that he took great delight himſelf to inſtruct him, and to make him privy to his Affairs of moſt important ſecreſie; confeſſing to his moſt intimate Favourites, that many times the young Prince would furniſh him with notions and hints which otherwiſe he never ſhould have thought of. And when he gave private Audience to Forreign Princes and Embaſſadours, at what time diſcretion prompted him to retire with the reſt, the Emperour would ſtop him with this gentle command, *Stay Prince.*

The whole Court was ſurpriz'd to behold the great eſteem which that Mighty and Prudent Monarch had for the Prince, above all the reſt that were about him, and with what a confidence he entruſted the Secrets of his Empire with years that could ſo little aſpire to experience. For hardly had he paſs'd the twentieth year of his Age, before the Emperour made choice of him, before all the Grandees of his Court, to carry the Imperial Crown which he reſign'd to his Brother *Ferdinand.*

land. An Employment which the Prince with ſome reluctancy undertook, apologizing to his gracious Maſter, how ill it became him to carry to another, that Crown which his Uncle *Henry* of *Naſſau* had ſet upon his head.

And to ſhew that the Emperour had the ſame opinion of his Valour as of his Prudence, when *Philibert Emanuel*, Duke of *Savoy*, General of his Armies, was oblig'd upon his own particular Affairs, to be abſent from the *Low Countries*, tho' the Prince of *Orange* were not then above two and twenty years of age, and were at that time gone to viſit his Town of *Breda*, the Emperour in his abſence, and of his own proper motion, contrary to the Advice of all his Council, preferr'd him to ſupply the place of *Generaliſſimo*, rejecting all his other experienc'd Captains, more eſpecially Count *d'Egmont*, who was twelve years his Senior; and that, at a dangerous conjuncture, when he had to deal with Monſieur *de Nevers*, and the Admiral *de Chaſtillon*, who were no Captains to be contemn'd. And yet the Emperour was ſo far from receiving the leaſt prejudice that Summer by his Conduct, that he caus'd *Philipville* and *Charlemont* to be built in ſight of the *French* Camp.

Theſe Teſtimonies of the Emperour's Confidence and Favour, were the Cauſes, that tho' the Emperour had particularly, upon his withdrawing into *Spain*, recommended him to the King his Son, yet the *Spaniards* who govern'd him, having been bred in *Spain*, and bearing a mortal Grudge to the conſtant proſperity of the Young Prince, by their continual Calumnies and Accuſations, render'd him ſo ſuſpected to King *Philip*, that the moſt innocent of his Words and Actions were all interpreted for the worſt; and the great Oppoſition which the Provinces made to the King's Will and Pleaſure, under pretence of their Priviledges, was all attributed to the under-hand Contrivances of Prince *William*.

And hence it came to paſs, that when King *Philip* was at *Fluſhing*, ready to embark for *Spain*, with a Countenance full of Indignation, he upbraided him for having

having hindred the execution of his deſigns by his private Cabals. To which, when the Prince with all humility anſwer'd, That all had been done by the meer and immediate Motion of the States themſelves, the King taking him by the Wriſt, and ſhaking his Hand, reply'd, *Not the States, but You, You, You*; repeating the word *You*, three times, to ſhew the depth of his Reſentment, according to the *Spaniſh* Cuſtom. Which cruel and publick Reproach made ſuch a deep impreſſion in the mind of the Prince, that not believing himſelf oblig'd to any farther Ceremony of waiting upon the King to the Sea-ſide, he only wiſh'd him a happy Voyage, and ſo took his leave in the middle of the Town, where he knew himſelf ſecure among a People by whom he was highly belov'd.

Another thing there was which made him yet more ſenſible of the King's Ill-will. For whereas he thought to have had the Government of the *Low Countries*, which his Predeceſſors had always enjoy'd, he beheld, on the other ſide, that Cardinal *Granville*, his profeſs'd Enemy, was the only perſon entruſted with the Secrets of the Court of *Spain*, and himſelf ſhut out from all the *Spaniſh* Conſultations of any importance. And indeed the Proceedings of King *Philip* were no way pleaſing either to the Nobility in particular, or to the People of the *Netherlands* in general.

For when *Philip* II. bred in *Spain*, came into the *Low Countries*, during the Life of his Father the Emperour, there was obſerv'd ſo great a difference between the Father and the Son, that the people, more eſpecially the Nobility, deſpis'd the One with as great an Averſion, as they had Eſteem and Veneration for the Other. For the Emperour was Affable, Courteous, and eaſie of Acceſs, treated all ſorts of Nations familiarly, and diſcours'd all the World in their own Language; which gain'd him univerſal Honour and Eſteem: Whereas his Son *Philip* kept himſelf reſerv'dly at a diſtance, rarely would ſuffer himſelf to be ſeen, was always habited after the *Spaniſh* Mode, ſpoke but very little, and that little always in *Spaniſh*. Which drew upon him the general

general hatred of the Grandees and People of the *Low Countries*, who deteſting and dreading the Pride of the *Spaniards*, who at that time aſſum'd the Government of all the *Netherlands* into their own hands, in a full Aſſembly of the *States-General* of the *Low Countries*, held at *Gaunt*, made ſuit to the King, That his Majeſty would be pleas'd to withdraw his Forreign Forces out of the Provinces; that he would make uſe of Natives only for the defence of his Strong-holds, and forbear to advance Forreign Miniſters to the Civil Government.

Theſe Demands not only ſurpriz'd, but highly incens'd the King, who believ'd the Prince of *Orange* alſo to be the main Stickler in theſe Affairs; nevertheleſs diſſembling his Diſguſt, he put them in good hopes. And then it was, that having eſtabliſh'd *Margaret* of *Auſtria*, his Natural Siſter, Wife of *Octavio Farneſe* Duke of *Parma*, Abſolute Governeſs of the *Low Countries*, he embark'd for *Spain*. However, before his departure he left his Orders with the *Governeß* to ſet up the *Spaniſh Inquiſition* in the *Netherlands*, and to create ſeveral new Biſhops. And theſe were the real Sources of all the terrible Diſorders that enſu'd; ſo highly did the People deteſt and abominate the very Name of the *Inquiſition*, and the New Biſhops, which they believ'd to be Members of it.

To which we may add, That at the ſame time Cardinal *Granvile* was privy to all the Secrets of King *Philip*'s Breaſt, and had the whole power of the Government, under the Dutcheſs of *Parma*, in his own hands. Of which he made ſo bad an Uſe, as being naturally of a haughty and fierce Temper, that by his Imperious Behaviour toward the Nobility, he drew upon himſelf their Hatred to that implacable degree, that at length the Count *d' Egmont*, the Prince of *Orange*, and Count *de Horn*, no longer able to brook the Arrogance of ſuch a domineering Miniſter, wrote to King *Philip*, That unleſs he recall'd the Cardinal out of the *Netherlands*, he would be the certain occaſion of their Revolt, through the exceſs of his Pride, and by his violent

violent Counſels, ſo much deteſted by the Nobility and People.

This Bold Advice was look'd upon as a Crime in *Spain*; where from that time Reſolutions were taken for the ruining of thoſe three Lords, and all that adher'd to their Intereſts. However, for the time, the Court was conſtrain'd to diſſemble their Diſguſt, and to recall *Granville* out of the *Low Countries*. From whence, by reaſon of the Tumults, Diſorders, and Inſurrections that daily diſturb the Publick Peace, it was adjudg'd convenient to ſend forthwith into *Spain* the Count of *Bergues*, Governour of *Hainault* and *Cambreſis*, and *Florence de Montmorency*, Lord of *Montigny*, Governour of *Tournay*, both Knights of the Golden Fleece, to inform his Majeſty of the Condition of Affairs, and to endeavour to perſwade him to Courſes more mild and gentle. But in regard they never return'd to give an account of their Commiſſions, (for the Dutcheſs had privately advis'd the King not to let the Embaſſadours go, ſo long as the Troubles laſted) it was a Warning ſufficient for the reſt to look to themſelves.

As for the Prince of *Orange*, who was a great Politician, ſo ſoon as he underſtood that King *Philip*, by the Advice of his *Spaniſh* Miniſters, and at the Sollicitations of Cardinal *Granville*, who was enrag'd for having been chaſed out of *Flanders*, was about to ſend the Duke of *Alva* into the *Low Countries*, with an Army of *Spaniards* and *Italians*, he rightly conjectur'd, that it was to be reveng'd for the Demands that had been made him by the States of *Gaunt*, and the conſtrain'd Recalling of the Cardinal, of which the Prince was ſaid to be the principal Author; and believing likewiſe, that ſeveral other Changes in the Provinces were reſolved upon, deſir'd the Dutcheſs that ſhe would intercede to the King, that he might have leave to ſurrender his Governments of *Holland*, *Zeland*, *Utrecht*, and *Burgundy*; which the Dutcheſs refuſed him; only advis'd him to remove from his perſon Count *Lodowic* his Brother, as being ſuſpected to give him Counſels preju-

prejudicial to the Publick Repoſe. But neither would he hearken to that, nor to another Propoſal which was made him, to take a new Oath of Allegiance to the King; which would not only oblidge him to the Extermination of Hereticks, but might compel him to put his own Wife to death, becauſe ſhe was a *Lutheran*: And therefore he alledg'd, That ſince he had once already given his Oath to the King, it would be needleſs for him to do it again, ſince it might be thought he had broken his firſt Oath, in regard he was put to ſwear a ſecond time.

On the other ſide, the Governeſs preſſing in the King's Name the Eſtabliſhment of the *Inquiſition* and the New Biſhops, about four hundred Gentlemen, headed by *Lewis* of *Naſſau*, and ſeveral others of the Nobility, preſented a Petition to the Dutcheſs, againſt the *Inquiſition*, the New Biſhops, and the Publication of the Council of *Trent*. And theſe were they who were afterwards called by the Name of *Gueuſes*, or *Beggars*; ſo nick-nam'd by the Count of *Barlaymont*, a great Confident of the Dutcheſs of *Parma*'s, from the plainneſs of their grave and modeſt Habits which they wore when they preſented their Petition. Which tho' it were a Nick-name given in deriſion, prov'd a ſerious means more firmly to unite and ſoder the *Confederacy*, and ſtrengthen the Prince's Party.

Who perceiving the Petition ſlighted, ſummon'd the Counts *d' Egmont*, *Horn*, and *Hocſtrade*, together with Count *Lewis* his Brother, to meet him at *Tenremonde*, there to conſult about their own Safety, and the Security of the Provinces. Where the greateſt part were for taking Arms, to oppoſe the Entrance of the *Spaniards* into the *Low Countries*, and their Deſigns, which were ſufficiently viſible to ruine *Them*. All which the Prince of *Orange* prov'd by intercepted Letters, written by the *Spaniſh* Embaſſadour then reſiding at *Paris*. But Count *Egmont*, who was Governour of *Flanders* and *Artois*, and greatly belov'd among the Soldiery, would not hearken to any ſuch Reſolutions, but confident of his own Merits, adviſ'd the Aſſembly to rely

rely upon the King's Clemency and Mercy. Which Words when he repeated at another Meeting at *Willebroc*, the Prince of *Orange* repli'd, *That the Mercy of the King, to which he truſted, would be his Ruine; and that he was to be the Bridge, which the* Spaniards *would tread upon, in their coming over to the* Low-Countries; *but that after they were entred, they would break the Bridge.* At which Words, as if aſſur'd of his Prophecy, and that he ſhould never ſee *Egmont* again, he held him faſt embrac'd in his Arms; and ſo both, with Tears in their Eyes, took their laſt Farewel.

Immediately after the Prince remov'd with his Wife and Children (all but his eldeſt Son *Philip*, whom he left a Student in *Lovaine)* to his City of *Breda*, many of the Nobility waiting upon him: Where after he had ſtaid a while, he retir'd from thence into *Cleaveland*, and after that to *Dillembergh*, the ancient Seat of the *Naſſau's*.

In the mean time the Duke of *Alva* haſten'd his March into the *Low-Countries*, with an Army of Veterane *Spaniards* and *Italians*: Where he was no ſooner arriv'd, but he ſeiz'd upon the Counts *d' Egmont* and *Horn*, and after he had put to Death no leſs than Eighteen Lords and Gentlemen of meaner Rank at *Bruxels*, caus'd thoſe two Perſons, not long after, to be publickly Executed in the Market-place of the ſame City. To the firſt of which the *Spaniards* had been beholding for the two famous Victories of *St. Quintin* and *Graveling*. But then it was that the People blam'd Count *Egmont*'s Credulity, admir'd the more cautelous Courſe held by the Prince of *Orange*, and rejoyc'd in his Safety; believing, that while he liv'd, the *Low-Countries* were not altogether without Hopes. And Cardinal *Granville* ſeem'd to be of their Opinion, who, being at *Rome*, and hearing of theſe Proceedings in *Bruxels*, ask'd the Meſſenger, whether the Duke had taken *Silence?* For ſo he call'd the Prince of *Orange*. To whom when the Meſſenger anſwer'd, *No*; *Granville* reply'd, *If that one Fiſh has ſcap'd the Net, the Duke of* Alva's *Draught was nothing worth.*

As

As for the Prince of *Orange*, Count *Hockſtrate*, Count *Culenbergh*, and other Lords who were fled out of the *Low-Countries*, they were upon *Alva*'s Command ſummon'd by his *Council* of *Twelve*, by others call'd his *Council* of *Blood*, to make their Appearance, and clear themſelves of the Crimes that were laid to their Charge. But the Prince of *Orange* refus'd to appear, appealing to the *States of Brabant*, his natural Judges, and the King himſelf; in regard that being of the Order of the Golden-Fleece, he could not be judg'd by any but the King and the Companions of that Order. Moreover, the Prince made Suit to the Emperor *Maximilian*, and implor'd both his, and the Aid of the *German* Princes. Nor did the Emperor, or the Princes of the Empire, deny him their Patronage, but approv'd his Reaſons, and teſtify'd their diſlike of *Alva*'s Proceedings; who, ſo ſoon as the Days limited for the Prince's coming in were expir'd, pronounc'd him guilty of High-Treaſon, and confiſcated his Eſtate; put a *Spaniſh* Garriſon into *Breda*, and taking his Son *Philip William*, a Child of Thirteen Years of Age, from the Univerſity of *Lovain*, where he was a Student, ſent him into *Spain*; where, under the pretence of Catholic Education, the Name of *Hoſtage* conceal'd the Force.

And thus it may be truly ſaid, that King *Philip* the II. was himſelf the cauſe of the Revolt of the *Netherlands*, through his Contempt and Violation of the Priviledges of thoſe Countries, which his Father *Charles* the V. had Govern'd all along with ſo much Mildneſs; and by his unkind and rigorous uſage of a Prince, who had ſo well ſerv'd the Emperor his Father. For that had he continu'd his Favours to Prince *William*, according to the Counſel and Example of *Charles* the V. he had without all queſtion ſerv'd him with the ſame Fidelity, and Advantage to his Affairs: but finding himſelf ſo Roughly and Unjuſtly handled, look'd upon as a Publick Enemy, expoſed to the Violences of his Mortal Enemies, and threatned with the loſs of Life and Honour; and all theſe Exaſperations heighten'd by the loſs of an Eldeſt Son, raviſh'd from the Sanctuary of an Univerſity, where nei-

neither his own Youthful Innocence, nor the Ancient Priviledges could Protect him, he thought it high time to pass the *Rubicon*, and defend by force of Arms, his Honour and his Life; more especially, since the Oppression of his Country gave him so fair and just an Opportunity, to engage in the Common Quarrel of Religion and Liberty.

To this purpose he levy'd an Army in *Germany*, which he order'd to march before, and enter *Frizeland*, under the Command of his Brothers *Lewis* and *Adolphus* of *Nassau*. Who possessing themselves of *Damm*, and some other Towns, made a Halt about the Bay of *Dullart*. There *John de Ligny*, Count *Aremberg*, a Captain of great Renown, oppos'd them with a considerable Force; fortunate indeed in their first Skirmishes; but being at length drawn to a Battel, were totally routed by the *Nassovians*, with the loss of the Flower of the *Spanish* Army, all their Cannon, Baggage, and several Sums of Money, provided for the Soldiers Pay: and which was more than all this, himself slain in the Field. For that seeing *Adolphus* valiantly rallying his Men that had been forc'd into some Disorder, he puts Spurs to his Horse and charg'd him. And though he were shot by the way, yet the fiercer for his Wound, he first discharg'd his Pistol at *Adolphus*, and then with his Sword ran him through the Heart: but being Mortally wounded by *Adolphus* at the same time, fell dead to the ground at a small distance from his Enemy.

But Count *Lewis* enjoy'd not long the Benefit of his Victory; for the Duke of *Alva* following close at his Heels, and having overtak'n him between the Bay of *Dullart* and the River *Rhine*, set upon him at such a time, when his *Germans*, being all in a Mutiny for want of their Pay, rather chose to be miserably cut to pieces, then make any defence against an Enemy so formidable. So that the Duke of *Alva* obtain'd an easie Victory over a Confus'd Throng of Cowardly Mutineers, that turn'd their Backs in heaps to the Enemy, disdaining all submission to the Commands of their General. Six thousand were either slain, or else were drown'd in the adjoyning

joyning River. Nor could *Adolphus* himſelf have eſcap'd, had he not fortunately met with a Bark, which convey'd him over the *Rhine*; while the *Spaniards* were not only Maſters of his Camp, but recover'd all the Trophies of his late Victory.

Nevertheleſs, the Prince of *Orange*, nothing daunted at his Brother's ill Succeſs, levy'd another Army of Four and Twenty Thouſand *Germans*, with which alſo join'd another Body of Four Thouſand *French*, under the Command of *Francis Hangiſt*, Lord of *Genlis*. But before the Prince would enter the *Low-Countries*, he publiſh'd a *Manifeſto*, wherein he ſet forth the Reaſons of his taking Arms, clear'd himſelf from the Crimes that were laid to his Charge, and turn'd the Cauſes of the War upon the *Council* of *Blood*, and the Duke of *Alva*.

This done, after he had croſs'd the *Rhine*, he as fortunately paſs'd the *Meuſe*, by the ſame Stratagem, which *Cæſar* us'd when he paſs'd the *Secoris* near *Lerida*. For he ty'd his Horſe together, and made them ſtand croſs the River, to break the force of the ſtream, and then ordering his Foot to wade over ſilently in the Evening, with an inobſervable ſpeed, ſafely arriv'd on the farther ſhore with his Army. Which was ſuch unexpected News to *Alva*, that when *Barlaymont* told him the Enemy had paſs'd the River, the Duke ask'd him, whether he thought them to be an Army of Birds?

By this means the Prince of *Orange* being got into *Brabant*, preſently offer'd Battel to the *Spaniards*. But the wary Duke, being unwilling to hazard the loſs of the *Low-Countries* upon the Fortune of a ſingle Battel againſt an Enemy freſher, and more numerous than himſelf, kept cloſe within his Advantageous Poſts, notwithſtanding all the endeavours and ſleights the Prince could uſe to draw him forth. So that after nine and twenty ſeveral Attempts and Encampments, not being able to draw the Duke to a Combat, and finding thoſe Hopes to fail which had perſwaded both Him and His, that the Cities that favour'd his Quarrel, would preſently revolt; which they were ſo far from doing, that they were not only incens'd but fortifi'd againſt him; a Miſ-

fortune that would of neceſſity reduce his Army to great ſtraights, for want of Proviſions, in a ſmall compaſs of Territory not able to ſupport ſo great a number of Men; beſides, that his Soldiers began to Mutiny for want of Pay; by the advice of *Genlis*, and the reſt of the French Commanders, he reſolv'd to diſmiſs his Army; to which he pay'd ſome part of their Arrears in ready Money by the ſale of his Plate, his Artillery and Baggage, engaging to the Chief Commanders his Principality of *Orange*, and ſome other of his Hereditary Territories, for ſecurity of what was due to them in particular. However, before this diſmiſſion he utterly defeated Eighteen Companies of Foot, and Three Hundred Horſe of the Enemy, between *Queſnoy* and *Cambray*, and took almoſt all the Chief Commanders priſoners, *Don Ruffillo Henrigo*, the Duke of *Alva*'s Son, being ſlain upon the place. Which in ſome meaſure retaliated the Foil which he had receiv'd in *Brabant*, where the Count of *Hochſtrate* was kill'd.

This numerous Army being thus diſmiſs'd, the Prince retain'd no more than twelve hundred Horſe, with which, being accompany'd by his two Brothers, *Lewis* and *Henry*, he joyn'd with the Prince *Palatine Wolfang*, Duke of *Deux Ponts*, then ready to enter *France* with an Army, in favour of the *Hugonots*. By that means it was the Prince's hap to be at the taking of *La Charité*; afterwards at the Battel of *Rochelabeille*, where, together with the Count of *Rochefoucaut*, the Prince of *Orange* commanded the main Battel of the *Hugonot* Army, and Count *Lewis* of *Naſſau*, his Brother, ſignaliz'd himſelf againſt *Philip Strozzi*, Colonel of the French Infantry, taken priſoner by the *Hugonots*. After this, it was his chance to be at the Siege of *Poitiers*, which proving fatal to the *Hugonots*, he eſcap'd in diſguiſe to *Mont-Belliard*, and thence to his Territory of *Naſſau*, there to attend a better Fortune.

While the Prince remain'd among the *Hugonots* in *France*, he was advis'd by Admiral *Coligny* to give out Commiſſions to ſeveral Perſons of Quality, Fugitives of the *Low-Countries*, to infeſt the *Spaniards* by Sea; aſſuring

ring the Prince, that if he could but get footing in *Holland* or *Zeland*, it would not be an eaſie thing to drive him thence. Which Counſel was not onely advantageous to the Prince of *Orange*, but a kind of Propheſie from the Lips of the Admiral. For by this means, the Prince in a ſhort time made himſelf Maſter of all *Holland* and *Zeland*, no leſs fortunate and victorious at Sea, than he had been unfortunate by Land.

They that read the Stories of thoſe Times, written more at large by others, would think that *Alva* himſelf had conſpir'd to his Maſter's Loſſes. For having thus remov'd the *Germans* out of the *Netherlands*, and freed himſelf from the threatning War, he was now altogether for impoſing new Taxes upon the *Low-Countries*, being the Tenths of all Commodities to be ſold, and the Twentieth part of Goods immovable, to repleniſh the Exchequer, which the Wars had exhauſted. Nothing ſo much incens'd the Provinces againſt the Duke of *Alva*, as theſe new Impoſitions. Inſomuch, that at *Bruſſels*, the Seat of his Cruelty, and where, by reaſon of his preſence, he expected the readieſt compliance, upon publiſhing his Edicts for the Collection of thoſe Taxes, the People ſhut up their Shops, and the Bakers, Butchers, and Inn-keepers refus'd to put their Wares to ſell. By which it plainly appear'd, how great a Provocation to Rebellion Taxes are, when People groaning under other Grievances, have that one Burden more added to the reſt. For the Low-Country-mens Complaint of *Alva*'s Cruelty and Pride, paſs'd no farther than only Hate and Execration: inſomuch, that when the Prince of *Orange* enter'd *Brabant* with his Army, the Cities, tho' they mortally hated *Alva*, yet ſent him not the leaſt aſſiſtance. For Puniſhment that only lights upon a few, tho' it inflame the Multitude with hatred, yet it curbs and awes them at the ſame inſtant with fear. But Taxes are look'd upon as every Man's particular loſs; and they that are therewith moſt grievouſly afflicted, loſe their Fears, together with their Fortunes; and not regarding future prejudice, ſeek a General, meerly to defend them from being diſpoil'd of the preſent Fruits of their Toyl and Induſtry. Thus

when the Cities, as well thoſe that continu'd faithful to the *Spaniards*, as thoſe that ſtood ſuſpected, were preſs'd to pay Taxes, the Hatred of the generality increaſing, overcame their Fears. This the Prince of *Orange* well obſerv'd, and, as one that knew how to take hold of Opportunities, now rightly judg'd, his time was come to mature the delivery of his Country, and for laying the Foundations of that Government, of which he had the Model already in his Mind. To which purpoſe he lay ſtill, and levy'd Soldiers at leiſure, to ſecond the ſucceſſes of the *Water-Gueuſes*, who by this time had receiv'd their *Letters of Mart* and *Orders* from the Prince of *Orange*, to ſcour the Sea-Coaſt of *Holland* and *Frieſland*.

The Commander in Chief of theſe *Water-Gueuſes* was *William* Lord of *Lunè*, of the Family of the Counts *de la Marca*, with whom were alſo joyn'd *William Bloſius Treſlong*; *Lancelot*, natural Son to Count *Brederode*; *Bartholomew Enteſe*, *Sonoi*, and ſeveral others.

Theſe having for ſome time very much infeſted the *Spaniards* at Sea, deſigning at length to ſeize upon ſome Port of *North-Holland*, being at that time deny'd the benefit of the *Engliſh* Harbours, at the earneſt ſolicitations of the Duke of *Alva*, were at length by Tempeſt driven into *Vorn* in *Holland*, where ſtands the City of the *Brill*, a Port of *Zeland*; and, finding it without a Garriſon, eaſily ſurpriz'd it, the Count of *Bolduc* in vain attempting to regain it. Upon the taking this Iſland and City, ſeveral Cities of *Holland*, as *Horn*, *Alkmaer*, *Edam*, *Goude*, *Oudewater*, *Leyden*, *Gorcum*, *Harlem*, and all the Cities of *Zeland*, except *Middleburg*, declar'd for the Prince of *Orange*. *Vluſhing*, a conſiderable City, and Port of *Zeland*, follow'd the example of the *Brill*, and animated by the Exhortations of a Prieſt ſaying Maſs upon *Eaſter-day* in the Morning, turn'd out the *Spaniſh* Garriſon with ſuch a popular fury, that they hang'd *Alvarez Pacheco*, Kinſman to the Duke of *Alva*, at the requeſt of *Treſlong*, to revenge his Brother's death, whom *Alva* had caus'd to be beheaded at *Bruſſels* four years before.

In this ſo ſuddain a revolt of ſo many Cities (for at the

the ſame time the Cities and Towns of *Zutphen*, *Overyſſel*, *Gelderland*, and *Frieſland*, were either ſtormed and taken by *William* Count of *Berghen*, or elſe ſubmitted out of affection) nothing more amaz'd the Duke of *Alva*, than to hear, that *Lewis* of *Naſſau* had taken *Mons*, the chief City of *Haynault*, by the aſſiſtance of the *French*, and therefore he reſolv'd to regain it, whatever it coſt him. Which gave the revolted Cities liberty to take breath, and leiſure to fortifie themſelves with Men and Ammunition.

The Siege of *Mons* prov'd difficult and tedious, by reaſon of the ſtout reſiſtance there made by Count *Lewis*, aſſiſted by Mounſieur *de la Noue*, and many of the *French* Nobility.

In the mean time the Prince of *Orange*, having levy'd a powerful Army of 11000 Foot, and 6000 Horſe, (for the payment of which, he truſted to the promiſes of the *French*) paſs'd the *Rhine* and the *Moſe*, and being receiv'd into *Ruremond*, by that means enter'd into *Brabant*. In his March he appear'd before *Lovain*, which preſented him with a ſum of Money, to the value of 16000 Crowns: from whence he advanc'd to *Mechlin*, which preſently gave him admittance, as did ſeveral other Towns, either out of love or fear; till at length he came into *Haynault*, within ſight of the Duke of *Alva*'s Camp: which he found ſurrounded with a Circumvallation, no leſs ſtrong to maſter and keep in the Garriſon, than inacceſſible and impregnable againſt the Aſſaults of thoſe that ſhould come to relieve it. However, the Prince reſolv'd to try his utmoſt, nothing daunted at the defeat of the *French* Succours under the command of the Lord of *Genlis*, ſent by the Admiral *Coligny* to reinforce his Army. For the fiery *French-man*, impatient of delay, and a Partner in the Honour of delivering the beſieged, with more Valor than Diſcretion, giving Battel to *Frederic de Toledo*, the Duke of *Alva*'s Son, was by him totally routed, and taken Priſoner, to the great prejudice of the Prince's Affairs. Nevertheleſs, the Prince endeavour'd by all ways to force the Duke's Intrenchments, or to have drawn him to a Battel; in the midſt of which his

his indefatigable pains, he receiv'd intelligence of the Maſſacre of *Paris*. Then, not a little aſtoniſh'd at ſo ſudden and dreadful an accident, by which he had loſt the Admiral *Chaſtillon*, all the chiefeſt of his Friends, and all his hopes of any more ſuccour from *France*, he made one more effort to draw the Duke of *Alva* to a Conflict, before the news of the Maſſacre ſhould reach his Soldiers ears. But the Duke ſtill keeping himſelf cloſe within his Trenches, and thence in ſafety battering the Town; and the Prince on the other ſide, afraid leſt the *French* Commanders, who were the chief ſtrength of his Army, ſhould deſert him upon notice of the Maſſacre, wrote to his Brother *Lewis*, to make an honourable Compoſition for himſelf, and his: and ſo with ſlow Marches retreated toward the *Rhine*; yet not without ſome loſs, and great hazard of his own Life. For 200 ſelected *Spaniſh* Foot, and 800 Horſe, breaking into his Camp in the Night-time, had almoſt made their way, killing, and firing all before them, as far as his own Tent, where he was faſt in his firſt profound ſleep; ſo that had it not been for a little Dog, which uſually lay upon his Bed, that never left barking, and ſcratching him by the Face, till he had wak'd him; he had been in great danger of a ſurprize. But then, leaping out of his Bed, and perceiving the peril he was in, he made haſte to his Men, who were by this time coming to his reſcue; and then the *Spaniards* pay'd for the raſhneſs of their attempt, being moſt of them cut off in their retreat. The Prince at *Orſoy* diſmiſs'd his Army, and thence retir'd through *Overyſſel* to *Utrecht*, and from thence into *Holland* and *Zeland*; which were already prepar'd to receive him. For the States of *Holland* and *Zeland* aſſembling at *Dort*, had in his abſence already acknowledg'd the Prince of *Orange* for their Governour, and had given their Oaths to *Philip de Marnix*, Lord of St. *Aldegond*, his Procurator, in the Prince's behalf, to ſtand by him with their Lives and Fortunes.

Therefore ſo ſoon as he arriv'd in the Provinces of *Holland* and *Zeland*, he confirm'd for his Lieutenant in *North-Holland*, otherwiſe call'd *Weſtfrieſland*, *Theodoric de*

de Sonoy, a Gentleman of *Frieſland*; he made *Charles Boiſcot* Governour of *Vluſhing*, and his Brother *Lewis Boiſcot* Admiral, both Gentlemen of *Bruſſels*, who being both condemn'd by the Duke of *Alva*, follow'd the Fortune of the Prince of *Orange*.

The Prince however acted all things in the name of the *States*, tho' he had the full Power of the Government in his own hands (ſo great a confidence the People had in his Conduct:) For from him they receiv'd their Garriſons, Shipping, and Arms; he diſpos'd of all Publick Employments and Dignities, and beſtow'd and order'd the Revenues taken from the Clergy. So that in leſs than four Months there lay in the Port of *Fluſhing* a Fleet of Ships ready Rigg'd and Mann'd, of a Hundred and fifty Sail: and ſo continually did their Courage and Experience favour them at Sea, that for the ſpace of Ten Years, during which time they did incredible miſchief to the *Spaniards*, they were never but once by them worſted upon the Salt Water.

Among other Alterations made by the Prince, he order'd, that whereas anciently there were but ſix Cities which had right of Suffrage in the *States*, that is to ſay, *Dort*, *Harlem*, *Leyden*, *Delfe*, *Amſterdam*, and *Goude*, he added twelve more to the ſix, *Rotterdam*, *Gorcum*, *Schedam*, *Schonove*, the *Brill*, *Alkmaer*, *Horn*, *Enchyſen*, *Edam*, *Munikedam*, *Medomblic*, and *Purmerend*, to the end, that being oblig'd to him for ſo great an Honour, they might prove the more affectionate to him in the Aſſembly of Eſtates.

He alſo baniſh'd out of the Churches the *Roman* Ceremonies, by difference in Religion, to render the People the more irreconcileable to the *Spaniards*. And thus it was that the Prince of *Orange*, following the Prophetical Counſel of Admiral *Coligny*, got that footing in the *Low-Countries*, which he maintain'd with that Prudence, Reſolution, and Vertue, that all the Power of *Spain* could never afterwards remove him.

But now the Duke of *Alva* having re-taken *Mons*, ſent his Son Duke *Frederic de Toledo* to recover the revolted Cities of *Guelders* and *Holland*. To that

that purpoſe he made a dreadful example of *Mechlin*, for opening her Gates to the Prince of *Orange*. After that, he defeated the Marqueſs of *Berghen*, retook the Cities of *Zutphen* and *Naerden*, but he was forc'd to make a longer ſtay before *Harlem*.

Wibald Riperda, a Gentleman of *Frieſland*, was Governour of this Town, and Duke *Frederic* vow'd he would have no other Keys but his Cannon to let him into the place. The Siege was bloody, and tedious; but the beſieged, at length, being reduc'd to the laſt extremity, by an unmerciful Famine without example, which carry'd off no leſs than Thirteen thouſand Perſons; and all hopes of ſuccour being loſt, upon the defeat of the Count *de la Marca*, and the Barron of *Battenburg*, after a Siege of almoſt Eight Months, was forc'd to ſurrender at diſcretion. The *Spaniards* hang'd and drown'd for ſeveral days together, above Two thouſand of the Inhabitants, among the reſt, the Miniſters, the chief Magiſtrates of the City, and the Commanders of the Garriſon. *Riperda*, the Governour, and *Lancelot*, natural Son to Count *Brederode*, had their Heads ſtruck off.

But theſe Cruelties were ſo far from doing the *Spaniards* any kindneſs, that they made the People more obſtinate in their reſiſtance in other places, ſo that they were repuls'd from the little City of *Alkmar*, and the Prince of *Orange* at the ſame time, with ſo much the more eaſe ſurpriz'd *Gertrudenberg*, which was no ſmall ſecurity to the City of *Dort*.

On the other ſide, *Middleburg*, the Capital City of *Zrland*, with no leſs obſtinacy defended by *Mondragonio*, after a Siege of two Years, and the expence of ſeven Millions in vain attempts of the *Spaniards* to relieve it, was at length ſurrendred, and reunited to the reſt of the Province, which, together with the utter overthrow of the *Spaniſh* Fleet that was ſent to its relief, being all either ſtranded or fired, and the Admiral ſlain, in ſome meaſure made amends for the loſs of *Harlem*.

A little before this, the Duke of *Alva* and his Son were both recalled out of the *Low-Countries*, and *Lewis Reque-*

ſenes, great Commander of the Order of St. *Jago*, was ſent to ſucceed him: the King of *Spain* being at length convinced, that Cruelty and Rigour did but render the *Netherlanders* more obſtinately averſe to his Government.

Requeſenes had but an ill beginning, to behold that unfortunate Sea-engagement between the Prince of *Orange*'s and the *Spaniſh* Fleet, wherein the *Spaniards* loſt ſo many Ships and Men: but he had better ſucceſs by Land, to the vaſt prejudice of the Prince: For Count *Lewis* of *Naſſau*, his Brother, having brought a fourth Army out of *Germany*, of ſeven thouſand Foot, and four thouſand Horſe, was defeated near to *Nimmeghen*, by *Sancho d'Avila*, while the *Germans*, according to their uſual cuſtom, were all in Mutiny, and demanding their Pay, inſtead of minding to defend their own Lives, and their General's Honour. In this Battel, or rather Slaughter of the *Naſſovians*, Count *Lewis* himſelf was ſlain, together with his Brother Count *Henry*, and *Chriſtopher* Count *Palatine*.

The *Spaniards*, puſt up with this ſucceſs, laid Siege to the City of *Leiden*, and had reduced it to that extremity, that the People were ready to periſh for hunger; yet ſuch was the obſtinacy of the Defendants, that they vowed, they would eat up their left Arms after their Proviſions was ſpent, before they would deliver the Town. The Prince therefore being informed of their Diſtreſs, by Pidgeons let looſe out of the Town, and finding that a deſperate Diſeaſe muſt have a deſperate Cure, ordered about two hundred flat-bottom'd Boats to be provided, of twelve, fourteen, and ſixteen Oars apiece, the biggeſt of which carried each of them two great Guns: Theſe were Manned with Seamen ſent for out of *Zeland*, and laden with Proviſions of all ſorts: and when all things were ready, the *Hollanders* made holes in the Damm, and ſlighted the Bulkwark raiſed againſt the ſalt and freſh Water-tides of the *Yſſel* and *Moſe*, by which means thoſe two great Rivers, together with the Sea itſelf, being let in upon the level Land, overflowed the Leaguer of the *Spaniards*, and covered the whole

Country with ſuch a prodigious Deluge, that they who lived forty Miles off, brought ſupplies of Men and Victuals to the Beſieged: So that the *Spaniards*, after they had nailed their Cannon, and ſunk them in the Ditches, after four Months toyl were forced to raiſe their Siege; not without great loſs of Men, being purſued by the *Dutch* in their Boats with long Grappling-irons, wherewith they drown'd and drew up Priſoners into their Veſſels, a conſiderable number of the Enemy.

After this Deliverance, the Prince of *Orange* was received into *Leiden*, as a Deity who had preſerved them from the hands of an inhumane and barbarous Adverſary: for they lookt upon him alone as the Inſtrument of their Preſervation; in regard, that thô he would not proceed to the breaking of the Damm, without the Conſent of the States, yet he firſt propoſed it: and having received for anſwer, tho' they knew the damage they ſhould receive thereby, That a Country diſ-peopl'd was better than a Country loſt; then he went forward with his deſign. And at the ſame time it was, to alleviate in ſome meaſure the Sufferings of the City, that he erected the Univerſity of *Leiden*, and endowed it with large Priviledges and ample annual Revenues.

On the other ſide *Requeſenes*, to recompence this loſs, about the ſame time made himſelf Maſter of *Zuric-ſee*; thô neither he nor the *Spaniards* long enjoyed the fruits of his Conqueſt: For the *Spaniards* and *Germans*, knowing with what toyl and labour they had obtained ſo great an Advantage, and underſtanding that *Requeſenes* was dead, grew inſolent, upon the ſcore of their Merits, demanded their Pay with a more than ordinary Pride; and quitting *Schelde* and *Doveland*, which they had ſo lately conquered with ſo much Glory, while *Zuric-ſee* was guarded only with a few *Walloons*, ran up and down the Province of *Brabant*, uncertain where to vent their Madneſs, till at length they fell upon *Maeſtrick* and *Antwerp* itſelf; both which Towns they ſacked and plundered, to the value of four and twenty Millions; inſomuch, that the Plunder of thoſe Cities was called, *The Fury of the Spaniards*. And ſo inſupportable was this ſame licenti-

ous

ous Extravagance of theſe foreign Mutineers, that thoſe Provinces, which till then had continued in their Obedience to King *Philip*, declared the *Spaniards* Enemies to their King and Country, and called in the Prince of *Orange* to their Succour. And then it was that all the Provinces of the *Netherlands*, except *Luxemburgh*, entered into an Aſſociation of Mutual Defence, and concluded that famous Treaty of Peace at *Gaunt*, in the Year 1576, wherein they ſolemnly ſwore to Aſſiſt each other in the Delivery of their Country from *Spaniſh* Bondage. In purſuance of which Treaty, the Caſtles of *Gaunt*, *Valenciennes*, *Cambray*, *Utrech* and *Groning* were demoliſhed, and all *Frieſland* declared for the States.

To remedy theſe Diſorders, *Don John* of *Auſtria* was diſpatched into the *Netherlands*, to ſucceed *Requeſenes*: who at firſt carried himſelf with great Mildneſs and Affability. But the Prince of *Orange*, whoſe fore-ſight always reached the bottom of the *Spaniſh* Deſigns, continually forewarned the *Netherlanders*, not to ſuffer themſelves to be deluded with the fair and gilded Promiſes, which *Don John* made them on the King's behalf; aſſuring them, That Princes once provoked, might diſſemble for a time, but never would forget the Injuries they received, but only till they had an opportunity to revenge them.

However, they ſuffered themſelves for a time to be ſoothed by the *Perpetual Edict*, made the 17th of *February*, in the Year 1577, between the States on the one part, and the King of *Spain* on the other, at the Mediation of *Rodolphus* the Emperour, and the Duke of *Cleaves* and *Juliers*; whereby the Treaty of *Gaunt* was ratified; the holding of the States General conſented too; and the departure of the *Spaniards* and *Germans* out of the *Netherlands* decreed, with this further Clauſe, "That "they ſhould leave all the Proviſion, Ammunition, and "Artillery behind them in all the Places which they held. But the Prince of *Orange*, together with the States of *Holland* and *Zeland*, proteſted againſt their Edict, alledging, that many things, particularly ſuch Articles as concerned Religion, were not ſufficiently reconciled and explained.

But no ſooner was *Don John* received with great pomp into *Bruſſels*, and ſetled in his Government, but the States found the truth of the Prince's Admonitions; as having diſcovered by ſeveral intercepted Letters, written in Characters, and deciphered by *Philip de Marnix*, That *Don John* had private Orders to ſteer another courſe, which was to ruine both them and all their Adherents. Then, opening their eyes, they reſolv'd to oppoſe him by force of Arms.

On the one ſide, *Don John* ſeized upon the Caſtles of *Namur* and *Charlemont*, recalled the *Spaniſh* and *German* Troops, and prepared for War. On the other ſide, the States demoliſhed the Caſtle of *Antwerp*, and joyned with the Prince of *Orange*. Who, coming to *Breda*, with his third Wife, *Charlotta de Burbon*, was invited by the States General to revive their hearts with his Preſence: To which end the Burghers of *Antwerp* marched forth of the Town a good way to meet him, and conducted him to their City, where the States General deputed the Abbots of *Villiers* and *Maroles*, and the Barons of *Freſin* and *Caprias*, to beſeech him to come with all ſpeed to *Bruſſels*; whither he went by Water in a Barge, the Burghers of *Antwerp* marching on the one ſide of the Canal, and the Burghers of *Bruſſels* on the other; and being received into the City with Pomp and the joyful Acclamations of the People, he was declared Governour of *Brabant*, and Superintendant of the Revenues of the Provinces.

And here we are to obſerve, that though the Life of this ſame Noble and Heroick Prince, ſeemed upon many occaſions to be a kind of Proſecution of averſe Fortune, enough to have ſunk a Reſolution leſs determined and undaunted than His, yet he had alſo frequently thoſe pleaſing ſatisfactions of inward Joy and Content, with which the moſt inſenſible and ſelf-denying Stoicks, dare not deny themſelves to be ſometimes irreſiſtably affected, in the midſt of the Congratulations and happy Wiſhes of the People, whoſe Hearts and Affections they entirely poſſeſs: Whereas there are ſome Princes who have only the Command of their Subjects Bodies, not the

the leaſt of charming Empire over their Souls, which is the more noble part of Dominion.

But in regard that Vertue ſeldom fails of being envyed; and that a high and unblemiſhed Reputation, is more maligned than a tarniſhed Popularity, this magnificent Reception of the Prince of *Orange*, together with the Authority which the States and People willingly ſurrendered to his Illuſtrious Birth, his ſurpaſſing Prudence, his vaſt Experience, and his extraordinary Merits, rendered him ſoon ſuſpected to ſeveral Great Lords and Perſons of Quality, of whom the chief were the Duke of *Arſcot*, the Marqueſs of *Havrez*, his Brother; the Count of *Lalen*, and his Brother the Baron of *Montigny*, the Viſcount of *Gaunt*, Count *d' Egmont*, and ſeveral others. Who, jealous of his Grandeur, ſent away privately the Sieur *de Malſtede*, to offer the Government of the *Netherlands* to the Arch-Duke *Matthias*, the Emperour *Rodolphus*'s Brother. And ſuch was the ſpeed which their Envoy made, and ſo preſſing his Importunity to the *Arch-Duke* to make haſte, that he arrived from *Vienna* at *Cologne*, before it was known that he had been ſent for.

Thoſe Lords had a confident Conceipt that they ſhould have all the Power of the Government under the *Arch-Duke*, as looking upon them to be the Authours of his Advancement; and that at the ſame time they ſhould be able to undermine and ruine the Authority of the Prince of *Orange*, by ſetting over him a Superiour of that High Quality.

But the Prince of *Orange*, who well knew how to give way to Times and Seaſons, and to convert into Antidotes the Poiſons that were prepared for him, took no more notice of their Proceedings, than only to make a modeſt Complaint in the Aſſembly of Eſtates, that they had ſent for the *Arch-Duke* without imparting to him a Reſolution of that Importance; ſince it had been agreed that nothing ſhould be concluded but by common Conſent, more eſpecially in Affairs of ſo great Concernment; however, that he would by no means oppoſe either the Reception or Advancement of the *Arch-Duke*. But afterwards,

wards, having regained to his Party the Count of *Lalen*, who had the Chief Command in the *States* Army, he prevailed ſo far by his Addreſs and Prudent Behaviour, that the *Arch-Duke* being made Governour upon certain Conditions, he himſelf was choſen Lieutenant-General by the greateſt number of Voices in the General Aſſembly, and had the Chief Management of Affairs under the *Arch-Duke*, by the voluntary permiſſion of a Perſon that underſtood his Extraordinary Abilities. And thus did the Prince of *Orange*, by his admirable Prudence and good Conduct, cauſe that Storm to fall upon the heads of his Enemies, which they had raiſed for his Deſtruction. For the Duke of *Arſchot*, the Head of the Conſpiracy againſt the Prince of *Orange*, was ſoon after Arreſted in the Capital City of his Government by the *Sieur de Riboue*, a Favourite of the Prince's: And that he might be the more ſenſible of his Misfortune, his beſt Friends, the Biſhops of *Ypres* and *Bruges*, together with the *Sieurs Raſſinguem* and *Seuvequem*, with ſeveral others of his Creatures, were arreſted at the ſame time.

On the other ſide, *Don John* of *Auſtria*, being now declared the Publick Enemy of the Country, ſent for the *Spaniſh* and *Italian* Soldiers, which had left the *Netherlands* in purſuance of the perpetual Edict, with a great number of *Germans*, and at *Gemblours* defeated the Army of the *States*, Commanded by the *Sieur de Goignie*, in the abſence of the Count *de Lalin*, and the Principal Officers, then revelling at a Wedding at *Bruſſels*.

However, this loſs was ſoon after recompenced by the Surrender of the Famous City of *Amſterdam*, which was united to the Body of *Holland* eight days after the Defeat.

Nevertheleſs *Don John*, puſt up with his ſucceſs at *Gemblours*, marched with a numerous Force to attacque the Army of the States at *Rimenant* near *Mechlin*, then commanded by the Count of *Boſſut*. But he found that wary General ſo well provided to receive him, that he was forced to retreat in confuſion with conſiderable loſs. Inſomuch, that tho' *Boſſut* were highly commended for his

his caution at the beginning of the Battel, he was no leſs taxed for loſing the opportunity of purſuing the retreating Enemy with all his Forces, which ſpoiled the concluſion of his Victory.

In the mean time, the *States General* decreed a Toleration of both Religions in the Provinces; which was called the *Peace* of *Religion*. But this Peace not being approved by all the Confederates, produced a *Third Party*, which was called the Party of the *Male-Contents*; of which number were the Baron of *Montigny*, the Viſcount of *Gaunt*, *Valentine de Pardieu*, the Baron of *Caprias*, and others. By whoſe means the Provinces of *Hainault* and *Arthois* returned to their Obedience to the *Spaniard*, notwithſtanding all the Remonſtrances of the *States-General*, as well by their Letters, as by the Mouths of their Commiſſioners.

Nevertheleſs, the *States* having reinforced their Armies out of *Germany*, ſent ſeveral Propoſitions to *Don John*; amongſt the reſt, to deliver the Government of the *Netherlands* to the Archduke *Matthias*, upon the ſame Conditions to which they had already ſworn; as alſo that the Province of *Limburg*, and whatever he had taken either by force or ſurrender in *Haynault* and *Brabant*, ſhould be reſtored to the *States*. But in the midſt of theſe Tranſactions, *Don John*, no leſs ſick in Mind than in Body, as believing himſelf to be ſuſpected in the *Spaniſh* Court, upon the death of his Secretary *Eſcovedo*, ſuppoſed to be poyſoned in *Spain*, departed this Life in the Camp at *Namur*, to whom ſucceeded *Alexander Farneſe*, Duke of *Parma*; who by his obliging Behaviour, and the large Promiſes which he made them, greatly encreaſed the Number of the *Male-Contents*, and weakened the Confederacy of the *States*.

But the Prince of *Orange* more vigilant, much about the ſame time, that is to ſay, upon the 22*d* of *January*, 1579. lay'd the firſt Corner-ſtone of the Republick of the *Low-Countries*, by the ſtrict Union which he made at *Utricht*, between the Provinces of *Guelders*, *Zutphen*, *Holland*, *Zeland*, *Frieſland*, and the *Ommelands*, conſiſting of five and twenty Articles, of which the chiefeſt

Heads were, That the Provinces ſhould joyn in mutual Aſſiſtance againſt the common Enemy, and neither treat of Peace or War, but by a general Conſent, yet without prejudice to the Priviledges or Cuſtoms of any of the Provinces. This Aſſociation was called the *Treaty of Utricht*, becauſe made and ratify'd in that City. Where the Governours of the Provinces and the *States*, to ſhew that a ſtrict Union was neceſſary for their preſervation, aſſumed for their *Deviſe*, the words of *Micipſa* in *Saluſt*, *Concordia parvæ res creſcunt.*

Not long after, the Prince of *Orange*, perceiving the ſtrength of the *States-General* daily to decay, by reaſon they were deſerted by ſome of the Provinces, and ſeveral of their own Body, who had made their Peace with the King of *Spain*, through the active perſwaſions of the Duke of *Parma*, laid their condition before them; which he ſhewed them to be ſuch, that they could never be able to ſubſiſt againſt ſo potent an Adverſary, by reaſon of their want of Power, ſo that either they muſt be forced to reconcile themſelves with *Spain*, which he could never adviſe them to do; ſince there was no ſecurity in ſuch an Accommodation, either for their Lives or their Religion; or elſe to make choice of ſome neighbouring Prince to be their Lord, and Protector; for which purpoſe, he could think of none more proper, than the Duke of *Anjou* and *Alençon*, the only Brother of *Henry* the III. King of *France*.

This Propoſal being approved, *Philip Marnix*, and certain other Commiſſioners, were ſent into *France*, where in a ſhort time they concluded a Treaty with the Duke of *Alençon*, wherein it was agreed, That the *States* of *Holland*, *Zeland*, *Brabant*, *Flanders*, *Utrecht*, and *Frieſland*, ſhould acknowledge him for their Soveraign. Upon condition, that he ſhould make no Alteration in Matters of Religion, and preſerve the Priviledges of the Provinces. That he ſhould aſſemble the *States-General* once a Year, tho' if they thought it convenient to meet oftner, they might do it of themſelves. That he ſhould not diſpoſe of any Imployments or Preferments in the Government, without the Conſent of the *States*; and

that

that if he ſhould go about to violate the Priviledges of the Provinces, or any thing contained in the preſent Treaty, he ſhould forfeit his Soveraignty, and that they ſhould be at Liberty, being abſolved from their Oaths to Him, to chuſe another Soveraign.

Thereupon the *Arch-Duke*, perceiving there was no more need of him in the *Netherlands*, in regard they ſought a more Powerful Protection than he could afford them, took his leave, and retired into *Germany*, thô not without large acknowledgments from the *States* of his Favours, and ſeveral Preſents as magnificent as their condition at that time would afford.

In the mean time the Prince of *Orange* uſed the utmoſt of his diligence to haſten the March of the Duke of *Alençon*; well knowing how much it concerned him, at ſuch a Conjuncture, to be ſupported by the preſence of ſo conſiderable a Prince. More eſpecially in regard that the ſame Year, 1580. the King of *Spain* had publiſhed a moſt bloody Proſcription againſt him; wherein after he had upbraided him with the Favours which the Emperour *Charles* the Fifth had heaped upon him, he reproached him with the moſt opprobrious Names of *Ingrateful Rebel*, *Diſturber of the Publick Peace*, *Heretick*, and *Hypocrite:* Called him *Cain*, *Judas*, a *Man of a ſeared Conſcience*, *Impious*, and *Sacrilegious*, *Perjured*, *Author of all the Troubles in the Low-Countries*, and *the Peſt of Humane Kind*. After that the King declared him Out-lawed, and gave his Eſtate, his Body and Life to any Perſon that could make himſelf Maſter of either. Promiſing upon the Word of a King, and a Servant of God, a Reward of Five and twenty thouſand Crowns, to him that could bring him dead or alive into *Spain*; together with impunity for all the Crimes that ever they committed; and if they were not already Noble, to confer Nobility upon them and their Heirs.

In anſwer to which, the Prince made a long Apology, wherein he gave a particular Reply to every particular Paragraph of the Proſcription. Which when he had finiſhed, he cauſed it to be read in a full Aſſembly of the *States-General*. And indeed the Prince of *Orange* ſeemed

ed to be deſirous that the *States* would have cauſed it to have been printed in their own Names. But ſome of the Provinces deemed it not ſo proper, in regard it ſeemed to be too ſevere and picquant, and for that they were no way privy to ſeveral Miſcarriages therein imputed to the King. However, they declared by a Publick Act, that the Prince was wrongfully accuſed, and that it was only upon their moſt earneſt Importunity, that he had accepted of the Government, and offered him a Troop of Horſe, at the Publick Charge, for the Guard of his Perſon; beſeeching him to perſevere in the maintenance of their Liberty, and promiſing all Obedience and Submiſſion to his Commands and Counſels, which they acknowledged to have no other aim, but their ſafety and preſervation.

But if the Prince had reaſon to be troubled at this dreadful Proſcription, he had no leſs Reaſon to be afflicted for the ſurprize of *Breda*; which together with the Territory round about it, was no ſmall part of his Paternal Inheritance; a particular Loſs to himſelf, and a Damage no leſs conſiderable to the Publick. Nevertheleſs, it was no ſmall alleviation of his Grief, to hear that the Duke of *Alençon* was upon his March with Fourteen thouſand Horſe and Foot to the relief of *Cambray*, then beſieged by the Duke of *Parma*, who upon the News, was forced to raiſe his Siege. Beſides, that he ſaw himſelf in ſome meaſure revenged upon the Proſcription it ſelf. For upon Intelligence of the Duke of *Anjou*'s Advancement, the *States* declared the Soveraignty of the King of *Spain* over the *Low-Countries* to be forfeited, broke his Seals, and decreed that he ſhould be no longer acknowledged for their Prince. Nor were they at all daunted at the taking of *Tournay* at the ſame time, which the Duke of *Parma* wreſted from the vigorous Defence of Madam *Maria de la Lin*, Princeſs of *Eſpinoy*, and Siſter to the Baron of *Montigny*; a Lady that with a Maſculine Valour, for the encouragement of others, expoſed herſelf during the Siege to ſo much danger, that ſhe was ſhot in the Arm with a Muſquet Bullet.

Afrer

After this, the ſharp Seaſon cauſing a kind of Ceſſation of Arms, the Duke of *Alençon* made a ſtep into *England*; from whence, after ſplendid Entertainments, and a conſiderable Sum of Money for his *Low-Country* Voyage, he ſet Sail in the depth of Winter, and landed at *Fluſhing*, and thence walked afoot to *Middleborough*, where he was met by the Prince of *Orange* and the Prince of *Eſpinoy*, by whom he was conducted to *Antwerp*, where he was received with all imaginable Pomp and Magnificence; and where, being by the Prince of *Orange* himſelf inveſted with the Ducal *Bonnet* and *Mantle* of Crimſon Velvet, lined with Ermins, he took his Oath, in preſence of the *States*, and Magiſtrates of the City, and an infinite Multitude of People that thronged to ſee a Sight ſo extraordinary, regularly to obſerve the Treaty concluded with him, and the Priviledges of the Country, and not to Govern after his own Will and Pleaſure, but according to Equity and Juſtice: Which done, the *States* and Magiſtracy of *Antwerp* gave him their Oaths of Fidelity and Obedience, as their Soveraign Prince.

But all this publick ſplendour of Joy and Triumph, was ſoon overcaſt with Clouds of Grief and Lamentation, by reaſon of an unfortunate Accident that befel the Prince of *Orange*. For the *Proſcription* having promiſed ſo large a Reward, Money, the Poyſon of the Soul, had already infected the Minds of ſeveral Hungry Villains, and ſet them at work to merit the Price of Princely Blood. The firſt of theſe was one *Jaureguy* a *Beſcayner*, who, watching his Opportunity, with a Piſtol laden with a ſingle Bullet, ſhot the Prince under the Right Ear, ſo that the Bullet went out at his left Cheek, and brake ſome of his Teeth, as it paſſed through his Mouth. At firſt the *French* were thought to have committed the Fact; but the *Aſſaſſine* being killed by the *Halbardeers* of the Prince's Guard, and certain Papers found in his Pocket, by which he plainly appeared to be a *Spaniard*, the People that had taken Arms to revenge the Fact upon the *French*, were appeaſed, and retired well ſatisfied to their Houſes. The Prince of *Orange* alſo, notwithſtanding

withſtanding the extremity of his Pain, wrote with his own hand to the Magiſtrates of *Antwerp*, to let them know the *Aſſaſſinate* was ſet on by the *Spaniards*.

It is not to be expreſſed how extraordinary, and how univerſal, the Grief and Lamentation of that great City was, upon the Prince's being wounded. The Magiſtrates commanded Publick Faſts: The People would not ſtir from the Churches, but with continual Supplications implored his cure. And when the danger was over, with no leſs Zeal they employed their Devotions in returning thanks to God, for the Recovery of the Father of their Country.

So ſoon as the Prince was in a Condition to ſtir abroad, the Duke of *Anjou* took him along to *Gaunt* and *Bruges*, where was diſcovered another Conſpiracy againſt the Perſons of both. The Chief in this Conſpiracy was one *Nicholas Salcede*, a *Spaniard*, who confeſt he had received Four thouſand Crowns from the Duke of *Parma*, to Murder the Duke of *Anjou*, and the Prince of *Orange*, by Poyſon or any other way. And *Francis Baza*, an *Italian*, one of his Accomplices, being apprehended, confeſſed the ſame thing; but before he was carried to Execution, killed himſelf, to avoid the Tortures prepared for his puniſhment. *Salcede* was carried to *Paris*, and there drawn with four Horſes upon the *Greve*.

But now the Duke of *Anjou*, in imitation of youthful *Roboam*, who loſt himſelf by following the Dictates of his young Adviſers, miſguided by *Tervagues*, St. *Aignan*, *Rochepot*, and ſeveral other raw Heads that over-ruled him, and neglecting to conſult the Prince of *Orange*, the Duke of *Montpenſier*, the Count *de Laval*, and others that were able to have given him better Inſtructions, contrary to his Oath, and in defiance of all the Laws of Juſtice, took a Reſolution to ſeize upon the principal Places of the *Netherlands*, as *Dunkirk*, *Dendermond*, *Bruges*, and *Antwerp* itſelf, all in one day; not enduring the High Authority of the Prince of *Orange*, nor to be a Soveraign only in name, with a power ſo ſtrictly limited; pretending for his juſtification, that the People of

Antwerp

Antwerp had ſurrounded his Palace to kill him; and that by ſuch a revolt they had diſcharged him of his Oath. To this purpoſe he ſeized upon *Dendermond*, *Dunkirk*, and other places, but failed of *Bruges* and *Antwerp*, where the Citizens behaved themſelves with that reſolution, that the *French* within were ſlain in ſuch heaps before the Gates, that they without could not enter to their relief.

Thereupon the Duke of *Anjou* reſtored thoſe Places of which he had made himſelf Maſter, and returning into *France*, died at his Caſtle of *Chaſteau-Thierry* for very vexation and anguiſh of Mind.

The *Flemmings* were of opinion, that the Prince of *Orange* had correſponded with the *French* for the ſurprize of *Antwerp*, and his Enemies made uſe of that falſe ſuggeſtion to leſſen his reputation, which was ſomewhat impaired by his fourth Marriage with *Louiſe de Coligny*. The Prince therefore perceiving that the *States* Party grew weaker and weaker every day in the *Walloon* Provinces, retired into *Holland*, where he thought himſelf more ſecure, and leſs expoſed to the attempts of ſuperſtition, and the Proſcription Rewards againſt his Perſon, and made choice of the City of *Delph* for the place of his Reſidence, where his Princeſs bare him his laſt Son, named *Henry Frederic*, Grandfather to his preſent Highneſs.

Having thus, to his immortal Honour, by ſo many Glorious Acts of Prudence and Reſolution, enfranchiſed ſo great a part of his Country from Thraldom to the *Spaniſh* cruelty; it was no wonder, that the People ſo univerſally lamented his being aſſaſſinated in the one and fiftieth Year of his Age. For then it was, that *Balthaſar Guerard*, born at *Villefans*, in the County of *Burgundy*, either ſpurred on by the Proſcription Encouragements, or out of a vain hope of gaining Heaven, by ridding the World of an Enemy to the King and the *Catholic Religion*, took his opportunity as he was riſing from Dinner, at his Palace in *Delf*, to diſcharge a Piſtol into his Body, laden with three Bullets; of which wounds he fell down dead immediately, without having time

time to utter any more than only these words, in the presence of his afflicted Lady, and his Sister the Countess *Schwartsbourg*, *Lord have mercy on my Soul, and this poor People.*

The Murderer had insinuated himself into the knowledge of the Prince, under the name of *Francis Guyon*, the Son of *Peter Guyon* of *Bregançon*, who had suffered for his Religion. He was never without the *Hugonot* Psalms, and the new Testament in his hands, and would still be sure to be in view of the Prince at all the Sermons that were preach'd before him. By which means he had so wrought himself into the Prince's favour, that he entrusted him with several Dispatches to several places whither he had occasion to send. And at the very time when he committed the Assassination, he was attending for a Pass from the Prince to some Province whither he had designed him. He was not above Two and twenty Years of Age, and yet his resolution in the midst of the Tortures of his Punishment, was no less than his daring boldness to undertake the Crime.

Thus fell the Illustrious *William* of *Nassau*, Prince of *Orange*; a Person, in whom concurred a solid Judgment, to undertake so great and difficult a Work; a Courage unparallel'd to carry it on, and a Constancy almost incredible to bring it to pass: maugre all the formidable Puissance of *Spain*, and the intestine Treacheries of those that in Crowds opposed his generous Designs. Therefore it was that both the *States* and People, who had so often in their most dire Extremities experienced his Prudence, his Constancy, his Magnanimity, Equity, Patience, and Moderation; Vertues, that perhaps so many together never met in any one single Mortal, bewailed his death, as the greatest loss that ever could have befal'n them in this World; and to the end they might testifie the reality of their grief, nothing was thought too Great or Royal to solemnize the Pomp of his Funeral.

He was a person of a goodly stature; swarthy of Complexion, his Hair inclining to a Chesnut-colour; he spoke

ſpoke but little, thought much; but what he uttered, was all to the purpoſe, and paſs'd for Oracular. No man in all the *Low Countries* more hoſpitable, or that kept a more ſplendid Table, even in the time of *Charles* the Firſt; his Houſe being always open for the entertainment of all Forreign Princes and Embaſſadours. Which ſurpaſſing Generoſity of his, together with a peculiar Art that he had of winning upon the affections of men, gained him an univerſal Friendſhip and Eſteem. Not that he ſtoop'd to the low forms of Complement, and common profeſſions of Courtſhip, wherewith now adays men honourably mock one another; but ſhewing himſelf neither ſparing nor prodigal of his Courtſhip, ſo diſcreetly expended his words, that men of judgment well might think he reſerved more for action. Among the common people ſo affable and familiar, that he ſeldom put on his Hat in the Streets, where multitudes of all Ages and Sexes would be always crowding to ſee him. More particularly it is reported of him, that as he was paſſing along a-foot in one of the Cities of *Holland*, hearing a noiſe in an ordinary Tradeſman's houſe, and underſtanding that the Man and his Wife were at variance, he entered, and having patiently heard the Cauſe of the Diſpute, exhorted them to be friends, with an affability beyond compare. Upon which, both Parties being reconciled, the Man of the Houſe ask'd him if he would taſte of his Beer? to which the Prince anſwered, *Yes.* The Drink being come, the Man drank to the Prince firſt, in a blew Jugg, and then filling it again, after he had wip'd off the froth with the palm of his hand, preſented the Jugg to the Prince, who pledg'd him heartily, and ſo went his way. And indeed it was his uſual ſaying, when his Friends taxed him of being too familiar, *That there could be nothing cheaper bought than the Good Word of the People, which coſt him only the putting off his Hat, or a little frankneſs of behaviour.*

He had four Wives; of which the firſt was *Ann d'Egmont*, the Daughter of *Maximilian d'Egmont* Count of *Buren* and *Leerdam*, a wealthy Heireſs, whom he eſpouſed by the favour of *Charles* the Fifth. By her he had

time to utter any more than only theſe words, in the preſence of his afflicted Lady, and his Siſter the Counteſs *Schwartsbourg*, *Lord have mercy on my Soul, and this poor People.*

The Murderer had inſinuated himſelf into the knowledge of the Prince, under the name of *Francis Guyon*, the Son of *Peter Guyon* of *Beçanſon*, who had ſuffered for his Religion. He was never without the *Hugonot* Pſalms, and the new Teſtament in his hands, and would ſtill be ſure to be in view of the Prince at all the Sermons that were preach'd before him. By which means he had ſo wrought himſelf into the Prince's favour, that he entruſted him with ſeveral Diſpatches to ſeveral places whither he had occaſion to ſend. And at the very time when he committed the Aſſaſſination, he was attending for a Paſs from the Prince to ſome Province whither he had deſigned him. He was not above Two and twenty Years of Age, and yet his reſolution in the midſt of the Tortures of his Puniſhment, was no leſs than his daring boldneſs to undertake the Crime.

Thus fell the Illuſtrious *William* of *Naſſau*, Prince of *Orange*; a Perſon, in whom concurred a ſolid Judgment, to undertake ſo great and difficult a Work; a Courage unparallel'd to carry it on, and a Conſtancy almoſt incredible to bring it to paſs: maugre all the formidable Puiſſance of *Spain*, and the inteſtine Treacheries of thoſe that in Crowds oppoſed his generous Deſigns. Therefore it was that both the *States* and People, who had ſo often in their moſt dire Extremities experienced his Prudence, his Conſtancy, his Magnanimity, Equity, Patience, and Moderation; Vertues, that perhaps ſo many together never met in any one ſingle Mortal, bewailed his death, as the greateſt loſs that ever could have befal'n them in this World; and to the end they might teſtifie the reality of their grief, nothing was thought too Great or Royal to ſolemnize the Pomp of his Funeral.

He was a perſon of a goodly ſtature; ſwarthy of Complexion, his Hair inclining to a Cheſnut-colour; he ſpoke

ſpoke but little, thought much; but what he uttered, was all to the purpoſe, and paſs'd for Oracular. No man in all the *Low Countries* more hoſpitable, or that kept a more ſplendid Table, even in the time of *Charles* the Firſt; his Houſe being always open for the entertainment of all Forreign Princes and Embaſſadours. Which ſurpaſſing Generoſity of his, together with a peculiar Art that he had of winning upon the affections of men, gained him an univerſal Friendſhip and Eſteem. Not that he ſtoop'd to the low forms of Complement, and common profeſſions of Courtſhip, wherewith now a-days men honourably mock one another; but ſhewing himſelf neither ſparing nor prodigal of his Courtſhip, ſo diſcreetly expended his words, that men of judgment well might think he reſerved more for action. Among the common people ſo affable and familiar, that he ſeldom put on his Hat in the Streets, where multitudes of all Ages and Sexes would be always crowding to ſee him. More particularly it is reported of him, that as he was paſſing along a-foot in one of the Cities of *Holland*, hearing a noiſe in an ordinary Tradeſman's houſe, and underſtanding that the Man and his Wife were at variance, he entered, and having patiently heard the Cauſe of the Diſpute, exhorted them to be friends, with an affability beyond compare. Upon which, both Parties being reconciled, the Man of the Houſe ask'd him if he would taſte of his Beer? to which the Prince anſwered, *Yes*. The Drink being come, the Man drank to the Prince firſt, in a blew Jugg, and then filling it again, after he had wip'd off the froth with the palm of his hand, preſented the Jugg to the Prince, who pledg'd him heartily, and ſo went his way. And indeed it was his uſual ſaying, when his Friends taxed him of being too familiar, *That there could be nothing cheaper bought than the Good Word of the People, which coſt him only the putting off his Hat, or a little frankneſs of behaviour.*

He had four Wives; of which the firſt was *Ann d'Egmont*, the Daughter of *Maximilian d'Egmont* Count of *Buren* and *Leerdam*, a wealthy Heireſs, whom he eſpouſed by the favour of *Charles* the Fifth. By her he had

had *Philip William* Prince of *Orange*, and a Daughter named *Marie de Naſſau*, married afterwards to *Philip* Count *de Hohenlo*, who after the unexpected Aſſaſſination of the Prince, when all the Confederate Provinces were under a ſtrange conſternation, generouſly withſtood the Efforts of the *Spaniards*, and revived the drooping Spirits of the *Hollanders*.

His ſecond Wife was *Ann* of *Saxony*, the Daughter of *Maurice* the famous Elector of *Saxony*, who made head againſt *Charles* the Fifth. By her he had the Renowned Count *Maurice*, of whom we ſhall have ſufficient occaſion to ſpeak; and a Daughter named *Emilia* of *Naſſau*, married to *Emanuel*, Son of *Anthony* King of *Portugal*.

His third Wife was *Charlotta de Bourbon*, of the Houſe of *Montpenſier*; by whom he had ſix Daughters.

1. *Juliana de Naſſau*, married to *Frederic* the Fourth, Elector *Palatine*, Father of *Frederic* the firſt elected King of *Bohemia*.

2. *Elizabeth de Naſſau*, married to *Henry de la Tour*, Duke of *Bouillon*, ſo much renowned in the Wars of *Henry* the Fourth.

3. *Catherina Belgica*, married to *Philip Lewis*, Count of *Hanaw*.

4. *Charlotta Brabantina*, the Wife of *Claudius*, Duke of *Tremouille* and *Thouars*, and Count *de Laval*.

5. *Charlotta Flandrina de Naſſau*, who, turning Roman Catholick, died Abbeſs of *Sainte Croix* in *Poitiers*.

6. *Emilia de Naſſau*, married to *Frederic Caſſmir*, a Branch of the Houſe of *Deux Ponts*, called Duke of *Lansberg*.

His fourth and laſt Wife, was *Loiſa de Colligny*, the Relict of Monſieur *de Teligny*, and Daughter to the Great Admiral *Chaſtillon*; by whom he had that Renowned Captain *Henry Frederic* Prince of *Orange*; of whom more in due place.

PHILIP

PHILIP WILLIAM OF *NASSAU*, Prince of ORANGE.

THis Prince was the Godſon of King *Philip* the Second; and when Prince *William* his Father was compelled to take up Arms in his own defence, he was a Student at *Levain*; where, among other Priviledges which that Univerſity enjoys, it is not lawful to apprehend, or arreſt any perſon for any Crime, whatever it be. Nevertheleſs, *John Vargas*, a *Spaniard*, attended by a party of Souldiers of the ſame Nation, took him by force out of a Sanctuary ſo Sacred, notwithſtanding all the Proteſtations of the Rector of the Univerſity, to the contrary.

The Prince of *Orange* his Father alſo made loud Complaints of this Breach, and Violation of Priviledges, in publick Writings; wherein he ſet forth the Cruelty of the *Spaniards*, whoſe Tyranny was ſo exhorbitant, that no Laws or Immunities, nor innocency of Age, were able to reſcue any perſon whatever from their Injuſtice.

This Young Prince was carried into *Spain* at thirteen years of age, and immured in a Caſtle in the Country, where he was debarred the benefit of all manner of Education, and where he ſpent the greateſt part of his Life, in playing at Cheſts with his Keeper; till after thirty years Impriſonment, he was allowed a little more liberty.

He was a Prince of Excellent Natural Parts, and being carried young into *Spain*, retained the *Roman Catholick Religion*. Which was the reaſon that the *Spaniards*, to juſtifie their illegal Detention of his Per-

ſon, alledged that it was done to preſerve him from the Venome of Hereſie.

During his Impriſonment, the Captain that guarded him, preſuming to talk ſcurrilouſly of Prince *William* his Father, the generous Son, not able to brook the Arrogance of his Jaylour, took him about the middle, threw him out at the Window, and broke his Neck. Various were the Opinions of King *Philip*'s Council, what was to be done in a caſe ſo extraordinary; but at length Indulgence and Mildneſs prevailed. The rather, for that *Gabriel Oſorio*, a young Gentleman, who was preſent at the Fact committed, gave a Relation in favour of the Prince, and told the Council, that the Captain had failed in his Reſpect to a Perſon of his Quality; and therefore that his Death was but an Attonement due to his juſt Reſentment. Which was an Obligation luckily laid upon a Grateful Prince: for after that, he always preferred *Oſorio* near his Perſon, and did him ſeveral remarkable kindneſſes.

At length King *Philip*, either compaſſionating his tedious Captivity, or weary of puniſhing an Innocent Son, for the pretended Tranſgreſſions of his Father; or rather hoping that his Liberty would create Jealouſie and Diſcord between the Brothers of *Orange*, (as the eſcape of Monſieur *de Guiſe* had done among the Heads of the League) reſolved at laſt to releaſe him.

But then Prince *Maurice* made it appear, how much his Soul was elevated above the Temptations of Intereſt. For he ſurrendered to his Brother the enjoyment of all his Demeans, of which he was then in poſſeſſion; as of *Breda*, and of other places; tho' for fear of rendring himſelf ſuſpected to the States, he forbore to viſit him in perſon, and only tender'd him his Reſpects from time to time by perſons deputed.

Prince *Philip* came into *Flanders* with Arch-Duke *Albert*, who in a ſhort while after ſent him back into *Spain* to attend upon, and conduct into the *Netherlands* his Bride and Spouſe that was to be, the *Infanta Iſabella*, to whom King *Philip* had given in Dowry, the Soveraignty of the Seventeen Provinces. All *Europe* ſtood

ſtood amaz'd, that the Son of a perſon ſo odious to *Spain*, ſhould be made choice of for an Employment ſo highly honourable, which could not be conferred upon him without an extraordinary teſtimony of Eſteem and Confidence. After that, he lived at the Court of *Bruſſels* with the Arch-Dukes of *Flanders*. For the States of the United Provinces, had conceived ſuch a diſtruſt of him by reaſon of that Employment, and for that the King of *Spain* had reſtored him to all his Demeans in the *Spaniſh* Low Countries, and in *Franche Conté*, that they would not permit him ſo much as to viſit, much leſs reſide in their Provinces; tho' he earneſtly laboured and deſired it.

He married the Siſter of the Prince of *Condé*, *Eleonora de Bourbon*, a Lady of great Vertue, but had no Children by her. However, by vertue of this Match with a Firſt Princeſs of the Bloud, he was reſtored to the poſſeſſion of his Principality and Caſtle of *Orange*.

He died of the *Hamorrhoids* at *Bruſſels*, in the Year 1618. leaving Count *Maurice* the ſucceeding Heir, as well to his Title as to his Territories.

MAURICE Of *NASSAU*, Prince of ORANGE.

THis GREAT CAPTAIN became a real Exception to the Proverb, which tells us, That the Sons of Hero's are usually Persons of little worth. For tho' he were the Son of a most Excellent Father, that has left behind him an Immortal Honour, he not only equal'd him in Prudence and largeness of Soul, but surpassed him in Military Knowledge, and Fortunate Atchievements. If the Father for twenty years together were the chief Discourse of *Europe*; the Son for above thirty years together, made a greater Noise in the World, than all the Crowned Heads of *Europe* together, For from the year 1584, that he began to act, till the year 1625, that he died, all men spoke with Wonder and Astonishment of Prince *Maurice*, as one that was without Controul, allowed to be one of the greatest Captains ever known in History. While he was yet but very young, that the World might know the eager desire which he had to trace the Glorious Foot-steps of his Father, he assumed for his Device, the Trunk of a Tree sawed off two foot above the Root; from whence sprung up a single *Scion*, lively and flourishing, and as it were hastening to grow up into another Tree, with this Motto, *Tandem fit surculus Arbor.*

And indeed Prince *MAURICE* was furnished with a large stock of Courage and Constancy at the age of Seventeen years, at what time he was called to the Government of Affairs, upon the Death of his Father. For he was no way cast down, to behold the Torrent of *Alexander Farnese*'s Prosperity, who carried all before

fore him, by the rapid Conqueſts of *Bruges*, *Gaunt*, *Dendermond*, *Deventer*, *Nimenghen*, *Graves*, and *Antwerp* it ſelf, after a Siege that was then lookt upon to be the Wonder of the Age, by ſtopping up the Mouth of the *Scheldt*, and bridling in the Sea with a Damm, which all thought to have been impoſſible. Nor was he any more daunted at the ſtrange Confuſions and Diſorders which then overwhelmed the Commonwealth, through the haughty Conduct of the Earl of *Leiſter*, whoſe inſupportable Pride, and inordinate Ambition, did the *Low Countries* more prejudice, than all the Sums of Money and Forces which he brought to their Succour, did them good.

For four years together, the Republick laboured under dreadful Extremities, and no man could believe that ſo young a Prince could ever unravel ſuch a twiſted Spindle of Diſorder and Confuſion, or cure ſo many pernicious Palſies in the State, begot by the Practices of *Spain*, or the Treachery of the Earl of *Leiceſter*'s Creatures. But as all worldly Affairs never obſerve the ſame ſtation, but are always rowling in a perpetual Viciſſitude, the ſame good Fortune that had favour'd for ſo long time the Duke of *Parma*'s Enterprizes, of a ſudden turned to Prince *Maurice*'s ſide. For after the total deſtruction of that Invincible *Armado*, deſigned to devour all *England* and the *Low Countries* at once, followed the entire loſs of the Duke of *Parma*'s Reputation, while Prince *Maurice* forced him to riſe from the Siege of *Berghen up zom*, to his Eternal Ignominy.

After which good Fortune, for the ſpace of twenty years, until the Truce, the Prince was ſtill attended with Victory, recovering within that time, no leſs than eight and thirty or forty Cities, and many more Fortreſſes, and defeating the *Spaniards* in open Field in three remarkable pitch'd Battels; not to mention his Victories at Sea, gained by his Vice-Admirals and Lieutenants upon the Coaſts of *Flanders* and *Spain*.

But nothing won him more Reputation, than the Surprice of *Breda*, by means of a Boat laden with Turfs, without

without any Effuſion of Bloud; there being but one ſingle Souldier loſt in an Action of that Importance and Hazard. For the Garriſon being compos'd of *Italians*, and eager for Fuel in that cold Climate, readily aſſiſted the Boat-man to draw his Bark of Turfs, under which lay the Prince's Armed Souldiers, over the Ice within the circuit of the Caſtle; as formerly the *Trojans* drew in the Wooden Horſe within the Walls of their City. Which was the reaſon that the Wits of that time compared the Surprize of *Breda* to the taking of *Troy*.

Nor did another Stratagem of the Prince, at the ſame time, a little conduce to facilitate the Boat-man's Enterprize. For while the Armed Bark was ſailing for *Breda*, the Prince made as if he had a deſign upon *Gertrudenburgh*, which cauſed *Lanzavecchia*, who was Governour of both Towns, to fly to the place which was threatned, by which means the Caſtle of *Breda* was left without a Governour, and the more eaſily expoſed to the Surprize that enſued.

The Surprize of *Breda* was attended by the taking of *Hulſt* in *Flanders*. But much more conſiderable was the Surrender of *Gertrudenburgh* after a long and painful Siege, in view of the *Spaniſh* Army of thirty thouſand men, commanded by Count *Mansfield*, an old experienced Captain, in the abſence of the Duke of *Parma*. For neither could that cunning General force the young Prince in his Entrenchments, nor draw him forth by any Artifice, tho' he preſented him Battel every day. Inſomuch that Prince *Maurice* having ſent a Trumpeter to Count *Mansfield*, the General as'd him, How it was poſſible his Maſter, being a young and fiery Prince, could contain himſelf within his Trenches, when ſo fairly provoked? To whom the Trumpeter reply'd, That the Prince of *Naſſau* was indeed a young Prince, but as old an experienced Captain as his Excellency.

The year following he took the Great and Famous City of *Groning*, the Capitol of the Province. He alſo took and retook *Rhineberg*, and made himſelf Maſter of *Meurs* and *Graves*. But that which extended his Reputation

putation farther than all this, was the long and famous Defence of *Oſtend*; where the *Spaniards*, after the loſs of threeſcore thouſand men, during a Siege of above three years, and the exhauſting their Treaſures, by an Expence of above a hundred Millions, made themſelves Maſters at length of no more than a heap of Rubbiſh, that look'd more like a Church-yard than a City.

However, the Prince was ſo fortunate and vigilant both together, that to repay this loſs with uſe, he made himſelf Maſter in a few days of *Sluis* in the ſame Country of *Flanders*, of much more Importance than *Oſtend*, that had coſt ſuch a waſt of Time, Money, and Men.

But at the Battel of *Newport*, where he utterly defeated the Arch-Duke *Albert*, he made it appear to all the World, that he knew how to vanquiſh *Veteran* Armies, more numerous than his own in open Field, as well as to defend, ſurprize, and take by force the ſtrongeſt Fortreſſes of *Europe*. The Arch-Duke, and the Duke of *Aumale*, were both wounded in the Fight, *Francis Mendoza* Admiral of *Arragon* taken Priſoner, with a great number of Commanders, even to the Pages of the Arch-Duke, whom the Prince as nobly and generouſly ſent back to their Maſter without Ranſom. All the Enemies Canon and Baggage, with above a hundred Cornets and Enſigns, fell into the Victor's hands, after the ſlaughter of ſix thouſand of the *Spaniards* upon the place. Nor could the defeat of four Regiments of Foot, and four Troops of Horſe under the Command of Count *Erneſtus*, before the Fight began, at all diſcourage him from giving the Enemies Battel; but reſolved to die or vanquiſh, he ſent away all the Ships that had tranſported his Men into *Flanders*, telling his Souldiers withal, that being deprived of all their hopes of ſafety by flight, they muſt either make their way over the Bellies of their Enemies, or drink ſalt Water.

Not that this was the firſt time that he had appeared in open Field: For the *Spaniards* had before this, experienced his Valour, firſt when he forced the Duke of *Parma* to raiſe his Siege from before *Knottenburgh*, with the loſs of ſeven Troops of his beſt Horſe. And in the

the next place, when he defeated a Body of six thousand Foot, and six hundred Horse, commanded by the Baron of *Balançon*, where besides the General himself, were slain two thousand of the Enemy, eight and thirty Ensigns taken, and a great number of Prisoners of Quality. To which we may add, that after the Truce was expir'd, and that the Marquess *Spinola* was sate down before *Bergopsim* with all the Force of the *Spanish Netherlands*, he compelled him to raise his Siege, to the infinite joy of the United *Netherlands*.

Prince *Maurice* was very strong, and in labour indefatigable. He appeared less than he was, by reason he was very fat and plump. His Cheeks were full and ruddy, his Beard white, which he always wore large and square. He never changed his Fashion of little Set-Ruffs; and for his Habit, it was always the same both for Stuff and Colour, which was like the colour of Musk. His Doublets were of Silk, trimm'd with a narrow Gold-Lace; but the rest of his Cloaths were of Woollen, only that his Cloaks and Coats were lined with Velvet. Round his Hat he frequently wore a Band of Diamonds; nor did he ever go without a Girdle, to which was fastened a Pendant, wherein hung his Sword, the Hilt of which was guilded.

His chiefest Recreation was Chess: a Game wherein he much delighted, and which he frequently used, especially during the Truce, when he had a Cessation from Warlike thoughts.

He laught at the *French* for going in their slasht Doublets and half Shirts; especially in such a cold Climate as *Holland*. Upon which, when a *French*-man told him he had two Shirts on, and that there was nothing so warm as two Shirts; the Prince replied, that three were warmer than two, and bid him go and put on another, for fear he caught an Ague.

He was wont to compare the four Principal Nations of *Europe*, to four sorts of Insects. For he said the *French* were like Fleas, that were always skipping about, and could never stand still in a place. That the *Spaniards* were the Crab-lice, that never quitted their Hold.

Hold. That the *Italians* were like Bed-punies, that never ſtaid long in a place, but they left ſome ſtench of Sodomy, Murder, or Treachery behind them. And that the *Germans* were like Lice, that ſuffered themſelves to be crackt upon a Table. He was a great lover of *Mathematicians* and *Engineers*, tho' there was not any perſon that could inſtruct the Prince in that Art, above what he knew himſelf; having himſelf invented ſeveral uſeful Engines, of great uſe both in Sieges of Towns, and for the paſſing of Rivers.

He would not ſuffer his Horſemen to wear ſtrait Boots, which he affirmed to be the occaſion of the ill ſucceſs of many great Enterprizes, there being frequent neceſſities for the Horſe to mount in an inſtant; and therefore he always wore Boots himſelf, that a man might almoſt leap into.

He could by no means approve the *Italian* Riders, that taught their Horſes to riſe and curvet, which he affirmed to be pernicious, and to have been frequently the ruine of their Riders. And therefore ordered his own Riders to teach his Horſes only to turn to the Right and Left.

He had ſo much eaſe in his Mind, that he had no ſooner laid his Head upon his Pillow, but he was faſt aſleep, and ſlept ſo ſoundly, that it was a hard matter to wake him; which was the reaſon that in time of War, he had always men that ſate up in the next Room, two at a time, and relieved every hour, who had orders to wake him, in caſe of Neceſſity.

He died in the Spring of the year 1625. at what time the Marquiſs *Spinola* lay before *Breda*. And therefore ſome impute his Death to his vexation and trouble of Mind, that he could not relieve his own Town, that he had ſo happily ſurprized above four and thirty years before. He was never married, and therefore left his Title and large Poſſeſſions to his younger Brother.

HENERY FREDERIC Of *NASSAV*, Prince of ORANGE.

HENRY FREDERIC, Prince of *Orange*, born the 28th of *February* 1584. was one of the moſt Renowned Captains of his Time, and every way equal in Fame and Military Atchievements, to his Brother *Maurice*.

Being ſettled in his Government, he took *Oldenſel* the Capital City of *Tuente*, and after that *Groll*, in deſpite of Count *Henry de Bergues*, General of a numerous Army of *Spaniards*, who could neither relieve the Town, nor force the Prince to raiſe his Siege.

Nor was his Vice-Admiral *Hein* leſs victorious at Sea, where he took a Fleet of the *Spaniards* near the Iſland of *Cuba*, valued at above twenty Millions.

But that which made him yet more conſiderable, was his taking of *Bois le Duc*, after a long and difficult Siege; which however ſhewed that he was able to maſter a place that had withſtood all the Efforts of his Brother Prince *Maurice*, who had ſeveral times in vain attacked it. And that which was more to be admired is this, that while he was buſily employed in that laborious Siege, Count *Henry* of *Bergues*, having paſſed the *Iſſel* with a numerous Army, ravaged all the Country of *Utrecht*, where he made himſelf Maſter of *Amersfort*, and ſtruck ſuch a terror into *Holland*, that ſeveral adviſed him to quit *Boiſleduc*, and march to the reſcue of the Heart of his waſted Country; yet ſuch was his Reſolution to get ſo conſiderable a Town into his hands, that he would not ſtir till he had it. Nor did he then follow the Count of *Bergues*, but turning his thoughts upon

upon the City of *Weſſel*, where lay the Magazine and all the great Artillery of the *Spaniſh* Army, by the happy ſurprize of that place, conſtrained the Count to repaſs the *Weſſel* in far greater haſte, than he croſt it before. And by that means, having obtained a double Conqueſt, won the Reputation not only of a brave, but a fortunate Captain. An Addition ſo deſirable in a General, that *Sylla* the Dictator preferred the Sirname of *Fortunate*, before that of Great.

Not long after Count *John* of *Naſſau*, his Kinſman, upon ſome diſtaſt revolting to the *Spaniard*, was defeated in open Field near the *Rhine*, by *Cott. Iſelſteine* with half his number, and carried Priſoner to *Weſſel*, from whence he redeemed himſelf upon the Payment of eighteen thouſand *Rixdollers*.

In revenge of which diſgrace, having rigged out to Sea a powerful Fleet, in hopes to ſurprize *Willemſtadt* in *Prince-Land*, he was utterly defeated by the *Hollanders*, with the loſs of four thouſand men taken Priſoners, and the reſt of his men either ſlain, or more miſerably drowned; himſelf hardly eſcaping with the Prince of *Brabançon*.

And then it was that the States General, to gratifie the Prince of *Orange*, and to teſtifie their acknowledgement of the great Services which he had done them, conferred the Survivancy of all his Dignities and Employments upon his Son Prince *William*; for which Conceſſion, the publick Inſtruments, being ready drawn up, were preſented to the young Prince in a Box of Gold.

Nor was Prince *Henry Frederick* ungrateful for their kindneſs; for after he had taken *Ruremond*, *Venlo*, and *Strall*, he undertook the Siege of *Maſtricht*; to which purpoſe he ſo well proportioned his Proviſion and Ammunition, which he provided for the Siege, that he had juſt ſufficient to ſerve him, till he had taken the Town. Where he ſurrounded his Trenches with ſo ſtrong a Circumvallation, that neither the *Spaniſh* Army, nor that of the *Germans* under Count *Pappenheim*, a famous Captain, could force him to raiſe his Siege; but were

compelled to retreat with diſhonour, after many Attempts in vain, and ſeveral conſiderable loſſes.

Many other Atchievements of leſſer importance I might recite, as his taking of *Rhineberg*, a little Fort, for its ſituation ſo much conteſted for on both ſides, that *Spinola* called it the *Harlot* of War; and his revenge upon Cardinal *Richlieu* for endeavouring to deprive him of his Principality of *Orange*, while he left the *French* deſervedly in the lurch, after their Victory at *Aveine*, to be vanquiſhed by want of Proviſions and Hunger; and his retaking the Fort of *Skink*, the Key of *Guelderland* and *Utrecht*, after it had been ſurprized by the *Spaniard*. But that which was more conſiderable than all theſe, was his regaining, after a Siege of not above four months, the City and Caſtle of *Breda*, which Marquiſs *Spinola* had beleaguered at vaſt Expences, a whole year together, before he could maſter it; as if the Enemy did but only take upon them ſtill a laborious and tedious Toil, to advance his Fame with ſo much the more ſpeed and glory.

No leſs victorious at Sea was his Vice-Admiral *Erpez Trump*, who ſetting upon a numerous Fleet of the *Spaniards*, conſiſting of ſixty ſeven Men of War, re-enforced with ſeveral Veſſels from *Dunkirk*, formidable in thoſe times, drave them firſt to take ſhelter in the *Downs*; and after that, being re-enforced with ſeveral Men of War, and Fire-Ships, from *Holland*, *Zeland*, and *Frieſland*, attacked them a ſecond time with ſo much Reſolution, that after a ſmart Engagement, he deſtroyed the greateſt part, to the number of forty Men of War fired and ſunk; wherein were loſt above ſeven thouſand Men, and two thouſand Priſoners carried into *Holland*: among the reſt of which was the Great *Gallion* of *Portugal*, called *Mater Tereſa*, that carried eight hundred Men, of whom not one eſcaped.

In the year 1641. Prince *Henry Frederic* of *Orange*, married his only Son Prince *William* to the Princeſs *Mary* of *England*, Eldeſt Daughter to *Charles* the Firſt, King of *Great Britain*, and of Madam *Henrietta* of *France*. And, not long after, as an Addition

to

to his Glory, he won the ſtrong Hold of *Hulſt* in *Flanders*, which he wreſted from the *Spaniards*, unable either to relieve the Place, or force the Prince to raiſe his Siege.

Thus *William* Prince of *Orange* laid the Foundations of the Republick of the *United Provinces*. His Eldeſt Son *Maurice*, fixed and eſtabliſhed thoſe Foundations by his Victories; and *Henry Frederic*, the younger Brother, by the continuation of his Conqueſts, and enlarging their Territories, at length forced the *Spaniards* to renounce the pretended Claim to their Territories thus Enfranchized by his Sword. So that the Illuſtrious Father, and his two Renowned Sons, may be juſtly and deſervedly be ſaid to be the Founders of a Potent Republick, that ſends her Embaſſadours upon equal Terms, to the moſt Puiſſant Kings of Chriſtendom, even to the King of *Spain* himſelf, whoſe Subjects they were, not not above a hundred years before.

Prince *Henry Frederic*, Prince of *Orange*, as to his Perſon, was tall of Stature, his Preſence comely, and very ſtrong of his Limbs; to which he had joyned a quick and piercing Wit, and a ſecure Judgment.

By the Advice of Prince *Maurice*, when he drew toward his end, he married *Madamoiſelle Emilia de Solms*, the Daughter of *John Albert*, Count of *Solms*, who came with the Queen of *Bohemia* into *Holland*. A Lady of ſurpaſſing Beauty and graceful Behaviour and accompanied with no leſs Modeſty and Prudence.

By her he had one Son and four Daughters, of which the Eldeſt, named *Louiſa*, was married to *Frederic William* Elector of *Brandenburgh*, by whom he had ſeveral Children.

The ſecond, *Henrietta Emilia*, was married to the Count of *Naſſau*.

The third, *Henrietta Katherina*, eſpouſed *John George*, Prince of *Anhalt*.

The fourth was married to the Duke of *Simerin*.

He died the twelfth of *March*, 1647. leaving behind him his Son

WILLIAM Of *NASSAU*, Prince of ORANGE.

WILLIAM of *Naſſau*, Prince of *Orange*, was born in the year 1626. A Prince of early hopes and ſurpaſſing Courage, but ſnatcht away by ſudden Death, in the four and twentieth year of his Age, after he had been nine years married to the Princeſs *Mary*, Daughter to *Charles* the Firſt, King of *Great Britain*, by whom he had Prince *WILLIAM HENRY*, who was born the fourteenth of *November*, 1650. ſome few days after the death of his Father, and had for his God-Fathers the Lords States-General of *Holland*, and *Zeland*, and of the Cities of *Delf*, *Leyden*, and *Amſterdam*.

WILLIAM

WILLIAM HENRY Of *NASSAU*, Prince of ORANGE.

A PRINCE in all Noble and Vertuous Qualities, equal to the reſt of his Anceſtors; Born, as they to be the Founders and Eſtabliſhers, ſo he to be the RESTORER of the afflicted and half-ruined *Batavian* REPUBLICK; who in his tender Infancy diſplayed a reſervedneſs and moderation far above his Age. And his Prudence increaſing with his years, all the experienced Judges of worth and merit, that obſerved his Actions, affirmed, that never any Prince was more admired, for thoſe early appearances of a ſurpaſſing bravery, that fixed their hopes and expectations in his Youth He ſuffered with a forbearance beyond parallel, the Affronts and Injuries offered him by *Barnevel*'s Party, revived in the perſons of the *Dewits*; expecting with a patience (beyond that of his Great Grandfather Prince *William*) a proper ſeaſon, and favourable opportunity for his Reſtoration to all the high Dignities and Employments enjoyed of right by his Family; of which he had been deprived by the publick Decree of a prevailing Faction, preſently after the death of his Father.

Nor will it be denied, but that *France* was in ſome meaſure contributary to his Exaltation, tho' not intendedly, nor in favour to the Prince; only his deſtiny permitted that vain-glorious Monarch to over-run and half demoliſh a Flouriſhing Republick, that his Highneſs might thereby have an opportunity to diſplay to

the World the Wonders of his Prudence and Magnanimity, in reſtoring it to its former Luſter; withal, to let the Ingrateful ſee, that only the Progeny of the Founders could repair the Ruines of what they had rear'd.

For it was a thing hardly to be imagined, with what a rapid inundation of War the King of *France* overrun the United Provinces of the *Low Countries*, forcing the greateſt part of the Frontier Towns, and ſeveral of the capital Cities. Among the reſt, *Utrecht* and *Zutphen* ſurrendered upon the very ſight of the Enemy; for tho' provided with numerous Garriſons, yet being no other than the Trained-Bands of the City, under Commanders of little or no experience, they were ſoon frighted by a veteran and daring Enemy; ſo that the King of *France* found himſelf, as it were overwhelmed with happy ſucceſs, beyond his hopes, and almoſt beyond his wiſhes.

Theſe Misfortunes, long before preſaged by the more prudent ſort, having reduced the United Provinces into a dreadful conſternation, gave the People an opportunity to complain of the unhappy Conduct of the *Dewits*, who had then the ſole power of the Government in their hands; and furniſhed the Favourers of the Houſe of *NASSAU* with a real pretence, to diſcover their thoughts, as it were by way of Admonition to the People, that in all probability the Princes of *Orange* were the only perſons capable to ſupport their tottering Eſtate, and defend them againſt their Potent Enemies: and that as formerly they had reſcued them from the Tyranny of *Spain*, ſo now, that they alone muſt be the Perſons to protect them from the farther Fury and Impetuoſity of *France*.

At the ſame time his Highneſs's Grand-mother, a Lady of a Maſculine courage, who ſuffered with impatience the eclipſe of the Houſe of *Orange*, which ſhe had beheld in its brighteſt ſplendour, was not a little induſtrious to awaken the Dependants and Favourers of the *Naſſovian* Grandeur, who were very numerous. Nor could it be thought a crime for her to ſee the Advance-

ment

ment of her Grand-child, by the Preſervation of his Country, when ſo many ſtrive to raiſe themſelves, and pamper their Ambition by the ruine of their Native Soyl. They, therefore, thus rouſed up, and diſdaining to ſee themſelves contemned and ſlighted, their Reputation loſt, and all the Employments of the Commonwealth beſtowed upon the Sons of Burgomaſters, and ſeconded by the fury of the People, who dreadfully terrified by ſo many Misfortunes, and to ſee a victorious Army rommaging the very Bowels of their Country, had ſacrificed the two *Dewitts*, to the juſt reſentment of the publick Calamities, of which they deemed them the Authors, as being Enemies to the young Prince; reſtored the *Belgic Ancile* to the Capitol, and returned him to the Poſſeſſion of all the Dignities of his Anceſtours. In this, thoſe happy Husbandmen, of which *Virgil* ſpeaks, that knew where their good and ſafety conſiſted: The fear of ſome few to be ſubjected to their own ſafety, was before the occaſion, and the ruine of ſo many. From thence ſprang up two fatal Factions, which, to ſtrengthen their particular Intereſts, enfeebled the nerves and ſinews of the general Security.

To which purpoſe they committed the greateſt blunder in Politicks imaginable: For after the Peace of *Munſter*, believing then they had nothing more to fear, nor that any thing could make head againſt their Uſurpation, but only the power of the Houſe of *Naſſau*, ſo potently allied with *France*, but more eſpecially with *England*; they disbanded all their Veteran Forces, and experienced Captains, that had won ſo much Honour to their Country, whom they lookt upon as wholly devoted to the Prince of *Orange*; and gave the chief Employments in their Armies and Garriſons, to the Sons of Burgomaſters, and Deputies of Cities; raw Souldiers, fitter to be Taught than to Command: Which was the reaſon, that when they were Invaded by a cunning and vigorous Enemy, whole Towns, wherein there were no leſs than five thouſand Foot, and eight hundred Horſe in Garriſon, ſurrendered themſelves Priſoners, without ſtriking a ſtroke, upon the very ſight of the Enemy.

Thus

Thus Faction and Intereſt, the bane of all Kingdoms and States, having reduced the depopulated Republic even to Deſpair, they were conſtrained at length, to have recourſe to their laſt *Aſylum*, the Prince of *Orange*; and to place the ſmall remainder of their Hopes upon a Perſon whom they had before ſo ungratefully rejected: Doubly puniſh'd for their Ingratitude, by the deluge of the publick Diſaſters, and the ſhame to ſee themſelves conſtrained to implore the Aid of him, whom their impolitick Pride had ſo highly diſobliged.

Nor did he fail their expectations, as by the event of the War appeared; wherein, a General at two and twenty years of Age, as his Grandfather had been before him, in the time of *Charles* the Friſt, he gave to all the World thoſe ſignal proofs of his Conduct and Courage, that ſoon entiled him to all the four moſt noble Accompliſhments, that conſummate a Supreme Commander; Military Knowledge, Undaunted Reſolution, Awful Authority, and Proſperous Succeſs: Inſomuch, that like the youthful *Auguſtus*, no ſooner in the Field, but ripe for Action; he not only ſtopt the Career of an inſulting Enemy, but changed the Fortune of the War, and forced the ſwelling Pride of elder Experience, to ſubmit to his ſuperiour Proweſs.

Therefore it was, that in the beginning of the Year 1672, Monſieur *de Beverning*, *John Dewit*, and *Gaſpar Fagel* were deputed in the Name of the States, to inveſt his Highneſs in the ancient Dignities formerly belonging to his Anceſtors, of Captain and Admiral-General of the *United Provinces*. Which, when he had accepted, he took his Oath in the Aſſembly of the States, according to the uſual Ceremonies, to the infinite joy of the People. And then he betook himſelf to the Army, which at that time lay not far from *Nieukop*: Where all that his Highneſs could do, againſt the whole Power of *France*, Commanded by the King himſelf, was to keep his Poſt; which he did ſo effectually, that the Enemy, for all their Numbers, could gain no advantage on that ſide; but on the other hand, when they thought to have forced the ſame Poſt of *Nieukop*, they were conſtrained to retire with

with loſs, and leave their Spades and Shovels behind them.

But in the Province of *Holland*, the People underſtanding the Frontier Towns and Garriſons dropt ſo faſt into the hands of the victorious Enemy, began to publiſh their Diſcontents, and miſtruſt of the Magiſtracy; and firſt of all at *Dort*, brake forth into open Mutiny; ſending, in the height of their Fury, to the Majeſtracy one of their Captains, to know, whether they were reſolved to Defend the City or no: To which, when they anſwered, *They were*; the People demanded to ſee the Magazines; but then the Keys were not to be found. This put the Multitude into a great Rage; ſo that now, apprehenſive of Treachery in the Magiſtracy, they cried out to have the Prince of *Orange* made STATHOLDER; threatning withal, the Maſſacre of the Magiſtrates, if they did not come to a ſpeedy Reſolution. Upon this, Commiſſioners were ſent to his Highneſs, beſeeching him to haſten to their City, to appeaſe the Commotions of the People. To whom, although his Highneſs by many reaſons made it appear how dangerous it would be for him to leave the Army; yet ſuch were their fears, if they returned without him, that he condeſcended to their importunity. Being brought into the Town-hall, which was richly hung, and ſeated in a Chair of State, they deſired to know his Highneſs's pleaſure: To which his Highneſs replied, That it was for them to make their Propoſals, who had brought him thither. Upon that, they beſought him, for the ſatisfaction of the People, to viſit the Fortifications and Magazines of their City, taking no notice of the Statholderſhip: which his Highneſs moſt readily conſented to do; and to that purpoſe, immediately took a turn about the City. But upon his return, the People ſuſpecting that the Magiſtrates had deluded both them and the Prince, came about his Coach, & boldly demanded, yet with great reſpect to his Perſon, Whether the Magiſtrates had made him Statholder or no? To which, when his Highneſs modeſtly returned for anſwer, That he was well contented with the Honour which had been already done him; They all unanimoſly de-

declared, They would not lay down their Arms, until they ſaw that Truſt confirmed upon him. So, that at length, the Magiſtrates, being terrified by the Menaces of the People, were conſtrained to lead the way for others to accompliſh what had only been by halves as yet performed. So hard a thing it is, for men to be induced to quit the miſchievous overweenings of Rancour and Diſaffection: and ſo ſure a mark it is, of the evil Government of a State or Kingdom, when the People muſt be forced to teach the Magiſtrates what is moſt for the Publick good.

Thereupon an Inſtrument was ordered to be drawn, for aboliſhing the *Perpetual Edict*. Which the Prince refuſing to take notice of, unleſs he might be diſcharged from the Oath which he took, when he accepted of the ſingle Charge of Captain-General; that was alſo decreed in his behalf: and an Act immediately drawn up, and read in the publick Hall by the Secretary, wherein the Magiſtrates declared his Highneſs, the Prince of *Orange*, *Statholder, Captain and Admiral-General of all their Forces, as well by Sea as Land; and conferred upon him the ſame Power, Dignity, and Authority which his Anceſtours of Glorious Memory had formerly enjoyed.*

Which done, the whole City was filled with an unanimous and univerſal Joy; and the *Orange* Colours were immediately ſet up upon all the Towers and Bulwarks of the Garriſon.

Only *Cornelius Dewit*, an ancient Burgomaſter of the Town, returning at the ſame time, indiſpoſed, from the Fleet, and being deſired to ſign the ſaid Act, made anſwer, He would never do it; nor could all the Perſwaſions uſed, nor the Threats of the Multitude, ready to break into his Houſe, nor the Tears of his Wife, that was ſenſible of his danger, prevail upon his Obſtinacy, till ſhe threatned to ſhew herſelf to the People, and proteſting her own and her Childrens innocence, to abandon him to the fury of the Multitude.

Nor was it only *Dort*, but almoſt all the Cities of *Holland* and *Zeland*, where the Burghers, obſerving the daily ill ſucceſs of their Magiſtrates, followed their firſt Example.

ample. So that upon a report of the Deputies of the Cities, the States General of *Holland* and *Weſt-Frieſland*, with whom thoſe of *Zeland* likewiſe concurred, not only confirmed what had been done by thoſe of *Dort*, but in the Grand Aſſembly of the States, preſented his Highneſs with the publick Inſtruments, which both diſcharged him from his firſt Oath of Captain-General, and inveſted him in the Statholderſhip at the ſame time, with all the Rights, Juriſdictions, and Priviledges as his Anceſtours had enjoyed it: Accordingly, the ſame day his Highneſs took his Seat in the Hall of Audience, with all the uſual Ceremonies, that the Dignity of Statholder, and Captain and Admiral-General of the *United Provinces* required; and then returned to the Army at *Bodegrave*.

And now, as if the Reſtauration of his Highneſs had already revived the courage of the People, we find a numerous Party of above five thouſand of the *French* twice repulſed from the Walls of *Arrdenburg*, and beſides their ſlain, conſtrained to leave five hundred of their Men Priſoners behind them; among whom were ſeveral Commanders, and Perſons of Quality, through the extraordinary valour of no more than two hundred Burghers, and a hundred Garriſon Souldiers: only that they were aſſiſted by the Women and Children, while the Women filled the Bandeleers, and the Children brought Bullets to their Parents.

Nor did the Citizens of *Groning*, with leſs Valour, and good Fortune defend their Walls againſt the Biſhop of *Munſter*; who, after he had lain before it with an Army of between twenty and thirty thouſand Men, was forced to raiſe his Siege, with the loſs of almoſt half his Men, and a prodigious expence of Warlike Ammunition, and Inſtruments of Deſtruction, beſtowed in vain upon the place: Inſomuch, that the Governour of the City declared, That he had been in ſeveral Towns beleaguered, but never had been Witneſs of ſo much Reſolution as the Inhabitants of *Groning* had made appear in ſuch a ſmart and violent Siege. To which they were not a little encouraged, by the care which his Highneſs took, to furniſh them

them with all things neceſſary for their Defence.

During this extraordinary zeal of popular Kindneſs to the Prince of *Orange*, there fell out an accident that proved an occaſion to fix him more deeply into the Peoples Affection, and procured the Deſtruction of two of his greateſt Enemies.

For a certain Surgeon having charged *Cornelius Dewitt*, Bayliff of *Putten*, and *John Dewitt*, his Brother, with a private Propoſal made by him the ſaid *Cornelius*, to take away the Life of the Prince: upon diſcovery made by the Surgeon, the Bayliff was apprehended, and committed to Priſon: And though he ſtrove by flat Denials, and Recriminations of the Informer, to juſtifie his Innocency, yet, being confronted by the Surgeon, who perſiſted in the truth of his Impeachment, confirmed by the promiſe of 300000 Franks for his Reward, ſix Ducatoons paid him in hand, and ſeveral other circumſtances that are uſual in ſuch kind of unnatural Treaties, the Court of *Holland* upon mature Conſideration of the Report made by the Advocate-General, condemned *Cornelius* to the Forfeiture of all his Dignities and Employments, and perpetual Baniſhment out of the Territories of *Holland* and *Weſt-Frieſland*.

But the People, who ſaw that the States had gone ſo far, believing that a Criminal ſo ſeverely puniſh'd by them, deſerved much more, had his Judges been leſs partial, began to ſtomach the Sentence as too eaſie; and with that, away they hurried with their Arms in their hands to the Jayl. Where, while they were all cluſtered together, in the height of their fury, it happened, that Minheer *John Dewitt* came in his Coach to fetch his Brother out of Priſon: Upon which, one of the Burgeſſes let fall theſe words among the People, *Now the two Traytors are got together, and it is our fault if they eſcape us.* This had been enough to have fired the Multitude, had not a greater provocation followed: For while they were expecting the coming down of the two Brothers, an unlucky Rumour was ſpread, that above a thouſand Peaſants and Fiſher-men were upon their march to Plunder the *Hague*. Upon that, another of the Burgeſſes, *Come, Gentle-*

Gentlemen, cried he, *let us pull theſe Traytors out by the Ears——do but follow me, and I'll lead the way.* Theſe words compleated their Rage, yet more enflamed by their Affection to their Statholder, and their Country, againſt the two conceived grand Enemies of both: ſo that immediately they broke open the Priſon Doors, forced down the two Brothers into the Street, where they were ſoon diſpatched by the Multitude; who, after they had laid the Penſionary ſprawling upon the ground, cryed out, *See there the Traytour that has betrayed his Country.* Thus fell *Cornelius* and *John Dewitt*, two bitter Enemies of the Houſe of *Orange*. More particularly it is reported of *John Dewitt*, that thoſe Politick Productions, that is to ſay, the Seclusion of his Highneſs from all his great Employments, the *Perpetual Edict*, and the Qualifications of the Office of Statholder, were the unlucky Inventions of that Penſioner's brain. Upon which it was the ſaying of a certain Embaſſadour to him, in private Diſcourſe, *Moſt Illuſtrious Sir, I have before now heard many things of your ſingular Prudence and indefatigable Diligence, but far leſs than what I now obſerve; from whence I dare aſſuredly pronounce, That either you will be the Ruine of the Prince; or elſe, that one day, for his ſake, you will come to Deſtruction.* And it is farther ſaid, that a certain Advocate, being deſired by his Father, when he was yet but a Lad of eighteen years of Age, to take him into Examination, gave this Teſtimonial of him, *That he found in him thoſe great Parts, and that ripeneſs of Wit, rarely to be found in others, that had ſtudied his Perfections during the whole courſe of a long Life.* And afterward the ſame Advocate, beholding him ſo ſuddenly advanced to be Penſionary of *Dort* and *Holland*, Propheſied this of him: *That he would never dye a natural Death.*

After his death, Minheer *Fagel* was choſen to ſucceed him, and the Election approved by his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange*. In whoſe Favour, his Highneſs the Electour of *Brandenburgh* wrote a Letter to the States; wherein he gave them to underſtand, *That having received the News of his Kinſman the Prince of* Orange's *being*

ing

ing reſtored to the Dignities of his Anceſtours, he made no doubt but that ſuch wholſome Determinations would be proſpered in the concluſion from Heaven, for the Common Good; more eſpecially, well knowing his Highneſs to be a Perſon that inherited all the Vertues of his Glorious Predeceſſours. Proteſting withal, That he found himſelf obliged, by his Exaltation, to contribute his utmoſt toward the Recovery and Preſervation of what his Anceſtours had acquired with ſo much Bloud and Reputation.

Much about the ſame time it was, that his Highneſs reſolving to diſlodge the Out-Guards of the *French*, with a Party of Horſe and Foot, gave a ſtrong Alarm to the Enemy, and, without moving from his Saddle all that night, drave the *French* to their Trenches before *Utrecht*, already not a little terrified with the loſs of their Men before *Cronenburgh*; and brought away ſeveral *French* Lords that were Hunting at the ſame time in the Woods of *Amerong*; who were ſent away Priſoners to *Amſterdam*, with ſo much Civility, that there was not the leaſt offer made to Plunder them of their Rings and Jewels that glittered upon their fingers.

Much about the ſame time alſo, ſeveral Alterations were made of the Magiſtrates of many Cities, to the great ſatisfaction of the Inhabitants, who ſaw themſelves now in a fair way to be reſtored to their former Tranquility: and ſeveral Commanders received the due puniſhment of their Cowardize and Treachery; his Highneſs no longer enduring that Corruption of Military Diſcipline, which had proved ſo fatal to his Country. Theſe were but ſmall beginnings, but ſuch as every day more than other encreaſed the Affection of the People toward his Highneſs, to that degree, that a Rumour being ſpread about the *Hague*, that certain Perſons, in diſguiſe, had made an Attempt upon his Perſon, as he was going, about eight of the Clock at night, toward the latter end of *October*, to viſit the Princeſs Dowager, all the People, young and old, great and ſmall, betook themſelves to their Arms, and followed the young *Rhine-Grave*, who preſently mounted upon the Alarm, to his Reſcue. But, underſtanding the falſhood of the Report, and that his

High-

Highneſs was ſafely arrived at *Hountſlaerdyke*, they returned home with no leſs Joy, than they had hurried forth with Zeal and Fury. However, it occaſioned a Reſolution, That his Highneſs, from thence-forward, ſhould always have a Guard to attend his Perſon.

But nothing more perplexed the Prince, than that the Year ſhould be ſo far ſpent without any conſiderable Action on his part; and therefore he reſolves to Attacque *Woerden*: To which purpoſe he ſends Colonel *Suyleſteyne*, and the Count *de Horn* before; the firſt to take up his Quarters between *Utrecht* and *Woerden*, and the latter to Entrench himſelf on *Polanen* and the *Saw-mill* ſide. His Highneſs himſelf ſate down with four Regiments on that ſide next to *Bodegrave*. Preſently *Luxemburg* haſtened to the relief of the Beſieged, and with between eight and nine thouſand Men, falls upon *Suyleſteyne*'s Quarter; but was beaten off with loſs, and forced to retreat. Thereupon the Town was furiouſly battered, and brought to Parley: but then the Duke of *Luxemburg*, being re-inforced with freſh Supplies, and conducted by the treacherous Peaſants, through the Water, and a long Lane that was thought impaſſable, fell a ſecond time, and that unexpectedly, upon the ſame Quarter of *Suyleſteyne*, from whence he had been beaten the night before; and, after a bloody and obſtinate Fight, wherein *Suyleſteyne*, refuſing Quarter, was Slain, at length made a ſhift to put three thouſand Men into the Garriſon. Nevertheleſs he was again repulſed, upon the coming in of Count *de Horn*, to the relief of the reſt, and forced to leave the Priſoners, which he had taken, behind him.

Of the *French* were ſlain two thouſand common Souldiers, and fifty four Officers died of their Wounds, in five days after the Fight, beſides ſeveral others that were forced to have their Legs and Arms cut off. Which made the *French* at *Utrecht* report, That the the *Hollanders* ſhot like Devils: Inſomuch, that ſuch was afterwards their dread of their *Woerden* Entertainment, that the Officers of *Utrecht*, would uſually draw Lots, when they were to be ſent forth upon any Parties where the Prince was engaged.

Of the *Dutch* were ſlain between ſix and ſeven hundred, beſides the *Sieur de Suyleſteyn*, and a Lieutenant Colonel.

Thereupon his Highneſs finding the Garriſon relieved with ſuch a numerous ſupply, drew off his Men, and retreated to his Quarters, tho' not with the Honour of a compleat Victory, yet that he raiſed his Siege, without moleſtation, with the ruine of almoſt five Regiments of the *French Infantry*, of which the greateſt part of the *Officers* were either killed or deſperately wounded, and the double repulſe of an Old Experienced General aſſiſted by treachery and ſurprize.

After the Attacque of *Woerden*, his Highneſs held a Council of War, of the Principal Officers of the Army, and then ordering the *Cavalry*, which had lay'n all the Summer at *Helden*, to hinder the landing of the *Engliſh*, to be tranſported through *Rotterdam* into *Brabant*, marched himſelf for *Roſendael*, the Place appointed for the general *Rendezvous*. By the way, a certain *Colonel*, out of curioſity, would needs be ſo inquiſitive as to ask his Highneſs, what was the great Deſign he had at that time againſt the *French?* To whom his Highneſs putting another Queſtion, by way of reply, demanded of the *Colonel*, Whether he would diſcover his Deſigns to any Perſon in the World, that ſhould be ſo impertinently inquiſitive as to ask him? Upon which, the *Colonel* anſwering in the Negative; *Then*, ſaid the Prince, *my Tongue is alſo indued from Heaven with the ſame Grace.* An Anſwer becoming the Wiſdom of a Prince, and the Reſervedneſs of a Great Commander: Like that of the Famous Conſul *Cæcilius Metellus*, to a young Friend, upon the ſame occaſion. Having muſtered his Army at *Roſendael*, to the number of Four and twenty thouſand Horſe and Foot, he marched directly toward the Country of *Liege*. Upon his approach, the Count *de Duras*, who lay at *Maſeyte*, retreated with his Army to *Waſſemberg*, and ſo higher up the River *Roer*. And indeed it appeared, that the chief Deſign of his Highneſs's March was to remove the *French*, under the command of *Duras*, from their Quarters about the *Meuſe*, and to have given him

him Battel, could he have met with a favourable opportunity. To which purpoſe, having paſſed his Army over a Bridge of Boats near *Navagne*, and joyned the *Spaniſh* Auxiliaries, he marched directly for *Tongeren*, which he inveſted on every ſide with his own and the *Spaniſh* Cavalry. But underſtanding that the Count of *Duras* was decamped from the place where he lay, the Prince marched back toward *Maeſtricht*, and repaſſing the *Meuſe* between *Sittart* and *Maſeike*, and lodging his Army near *Ainsbergh*, waited there two days for an opportunity to engage the Count; but the ſwelling of the River not favouring his Deſign, he retreated back to *Maeſtricht*, from whence he ſent out a Party of Horſe and Foot to take in the ſtrong Caſtle of *Valcheren*, which after a ſhort Diſpute ſurrendred at diſcretion; by which means the Victors were not only Maſters of the Caſtle, but of a great quantity of Wheat, Hay, and other Proviſion of Victuals. Which done, his Highneſs marched to *Lennich*, in hopes to have engaged the Enemy there. But the Count retreated with ſo much ſpeed out of his reach, that 'twas impoſſible for the Prince to overtake him. Such was the Courage of his Highneſs at that time, notwithſtanding all the Difficulties of a ſharp and rigorous Seaſon, to have fought a Victorious Enemy in the heart of his Conqueſts. His Highneſs therefore finding the Count ſo unwilling to hazard a Battel, came to the Caſtle of *Deſſener*, and from thence ſent the Count of *Marcin* to inveſt *Charleroy* with the Vantguard, while he followed with the reſt of the Army. But ſuch was the extream cold, that it was impoſſible to ſink any Trenches, or make any Circumvallation, ſo that the Prince, after he had made himſelf Maſter of *Binch*, together with three Captains and three hundred Common Soldiers, and ranſack'd and demoliſh'd the Town, retired back through *Brabant*, and diſperſed his Army into their Winter-Quarters. *Montal*, who clapt himſelf ſometimes into *Tongeren*, and ſometimes into *Charleroy*, afraid of both places, yet not knowing where the Prince would fix, then found himſelf deceived, to believe the Prince had any deſign to undertake long Sieges in the moſt

ſharp and rigorous Seaſon of the Year. Yet this was remarkable, that ſo young a General ſhould be able with an Army compoſed of ſo many Nations, to march in the depth of bitter Winter into an Enemies Country, remove an old General from his Poſt, Challenge him to Battel, and to that purpoſe hunt him from place to place, terrifie two ſtrong Garriſons, and return with the Priſoners and Booty of two fortified places, and all this within the ſpace of nine days, with little or no loſs of his own Men. Beſides, the Terror which he ſtruck into the Biſhop of *Cologne*, who thought himſelf ſecure neither at *Bon*, nor any other part of his Territories, ſo long as his Highneſs quartered ſo near him.

During this Expedition of the Prince, the Duke of *Luxemburgh*, having drawn together an Army of Fourteen thouſand Horſe and Foot, with a reſolution to invade the Province of *Holland*, in hopes to enrich himſelf and his Army, with the plunder of *Leyden* and the *Hague*, began his march from *Woerden*, over the Ice, with the flower of the *French* Army, toward the latter end of *December*; but being come to *Slimwettering*, the Enemy found the Waters there ſo high, that only Three thouſand five hundred of the lighteſt of the Infantry were able to get over. The reſt were conſtrained to return to *Woerden*. Theſe 3500 firſt attacqu'd *Nieucrop*, but were beaten off by the *Peaſants*, ſo that finding themſelves repulſed on that ſide, they directed their march towards *Swammerdam*, where the Soldiers were the firſt that ran for't, leaving the Inhabitants to the mercy of the Enemy. However, the Count *de Coningſmark*, who commanded at *Bodegrave*, being advertiſed of the march of the *French*, haſtened toward *Leyden*-ſide, and poſted a Regiment at *Gours Slays*, to prevent their paſſage that way.

This deſperate march of the *French*, put the People at firſt into a great Conſternation, more eſpecially at the *Hague*. But nothing more daunted them, than to hear that, while the *States* had taken all the care imaginable, to prevent the return of the Enemy, Colonel *Paine Vin* had abandoned his Poſt at *Nieuwerbrug*, and was retired

to

to *Gouda*, by which means the Enemy had a free paſſage open for their Retreat, who muſt elſe have periſhed all in the Water, or have ſurrendred themſelves Priſoners, by reaſon of the ſudden thaw that enſued. But all their Fears ſoon vaniſhed upon the return of the Prince of *Orange* out of *Brabant*; who, having at *Breda* received Intelligence of this Attempt of the *French*, haſtened with all imaginable ſpeed to *Alſen*; and in a ſhort time, by the ſtrange effects of his Preſence, reſtored all things to their former condition. The Duke of *Luxemburgh* was preſent all along, and had like to have been loſt by a fall from his Horſe into the thaw'd water; inſomuch that his Men had much ado to recover him; however though he did not loſe himſelf, he loſt above ſix hundred of his choſen Soldiers; and ſo this ſlippery Expedition ended.

True it is, that the *French* committed moſt exorbitant Cruelties at *Swammerdam*, and other places that fell into their Hands, by the raviſhing of Women, ſtripping and wounding the Aged and Decrepit, and throwing Infants that ſmiled in their Faces, into the Fire, but thoſe Loſſes were in ſome meaſure repay'd by the regaining of *Coevorden*. This City, which is one of the moſt Noble and Goodly Pieces of Fortification in all the *Low-Countries*, and held to be ſuch over all *Europe*, the Key of the Provinces of *Frieſland* and *Groning*, ſituated upon the Frontiers of the *D ent*, and confining upon the County of *Bentem* and *Tuent*, ſurrounded with a *Merſh*, and fortified with large and deep double Moats, Ramparts extreamly high and ſtrong, defended by ſeven Baſtions, bearing the Names of the ſeven Provinces, and a regular Caſtle, held for impregnable by the ancient Writers, fell into the hands of the Biſhop of *Munſter*, to make up the Misfortunes of this Fatal War 1672. not without ſuſpicion of Treachery, but after the turn of the Tide of *French* Victory, upon the Reſtauration of his *Highneſs* to his ancient Dignities, was recovered with no leſs Gallantry than it had been loſt before by diſhonourable Cowardiſe. For this very place which *Verdugo* had beſieged in vain, for one and thirty Weeks together,

ther, and which the Biſhop of *Munſter*, after he became Maſter of it, had furniſhed with a conſiderable Magazine, intending to make it the Seat of his War in thoſe Parts, was by a party of only 960, retaken within the ſpace of one Hour, with the loſe of hardly threeſcore Men, of the Enemy a hundred and fifty beſides Officers were ſlain in the Aſſault, and four hundred and thirty taken Priſoners, among whom were ſix Captains, eleven Lieutenants, and fourteen Enſigns. The reſt (for the whole Garriſon amounted to 900) made haſte to eſcape ſo ſoon as they ſaw the place was loſt. But that which was more conſiderable, was the poſſeſſion of ſuch an important Fort, furniſhed to the hands of the Victor, with ſuch an infinite quantity of warlike Ammunition, provided without queſtion for a longer defence. More then that, as the Recovery of this renowned Fortreſs, highly encouraged the *Dutch*, ſo it no leſs aſtoniſhed the Enemy; whoſe conſternation was ſuch, that upon the news of their loſs, they abandoned ſeveral of their Garriſons, and ſhifted every one for themſelves. All which redounded to the Glory of his Highneſs; for that the People, finding ſuch proſperous Alterations upon his coming to the management of Affairs, were eaſily induced, as they had reaſon, to believe, that all their unexpected Succeſſes were but the effects of his Couragious Influences.

Therefore it was that the ſame Authority which *Ariſtides* had over the *Athenians*, the Prince had over the People of the *Low-Countries*. Which made them ſubmit to what ever he approved. So that he conquered their Domeſtick Differences, with the ſame good Fortune that he vanquiſh'd their Foreign Enemies; for always Reverence and Awe accompany Affection, more eſpecially, when gained by ſweetneſs and moderation. From whence it came to paſs, that when the diſſentions between the Magiſtrates of *Frieſland* were grown to that height, that the new and the old Magiſtrates, repreſenting each the Soveraignty of the Province, held their Aſſemblies apart, and acted quite contrary to one another, (a ſtrange irregular motion, and pernicious to the pub-

publick good, which neither the Governour of *Friesland*, nor his Mother could reduce into Order) yet ſo ſoon as the Commiſſioners arrived among them, which were ſent by his Highneſs, thoſe Breaches were in a ſhort time repaired, and the Province was reſtored to its former Unanimity.

But going in Perſon, to pacifie the Diſſentions in *Zeland*, He no ſooner appeared in the General Aſſembly of the *States* at *Middlebourgh*, but their Diſcords vaniſhed, and all things were ſettled in order to the defence of the Country, to the full content of the Province in general, the Magiſtrates in particular, and his Highneſs's eternal Praiſe. From thence he took an occaſion to viſit the Frontier-Fortifications of *Fluſhing*, *Sluyſe*, *Ardenburgh*, (where the Keys of the Town were delivered him in a ſilver Baſon, by the young Virgins of the City, deckt with Garlands of ſeveral Flowers) *Yſendick*, *Berghen-Op-Zoon*, *Breda*, *Bois le duc*, and after a ſtrict ſurvey with no leſs care than toyl returned to the *Hague*.

The Spring was now far ſpent, and now, if ever, the *Hollanders* had their hands full: Being aſſail'd on the one ſide by the King of *France* in Perſon with a Puiſſant Army; while *Conde* and *Luxembourgh* lay at *Utricht* with powerful Forces, watching all Opportunities to break into the Heart of their Territories, and by Sea, no leſs vigorouſly attacked by the King of *Great Britain*, with his own and the greateſt part of the Naval Force of the *French* Dominions. For which reaſon the Prince of *Orange* had no leiſure to ſtir abroad; as being conſtrained to keep his Poſt at home, as well to watch the deſigns of *Conde* and *Luxemburgh*, as to prevent the threatned Deſcents of the *Engliſh*.

In the beginning of *May* therefore, the King of *France* ſet forward from *Paris* with a numerous Army, with which ſeveral other great Bodies were to joyn, that lay ready in ſeveral parts of his new Conqueſts; and after a ſlow march, upon the tenth of *June*, ſate down with his whole Army of 42000 Horſe and Foot before *Maeſtricht*; having before given Order to the Count *de l'Orge*, to inveſt it with three thouſand of his Cavalry. The Garri-

ſon

ſon conſiſted of about four thouſand Foot, and between eight and nine hundred Horſe, under the Command of Monſieur *de Fariaux* Governour of the Town, a Reſolute and Experienced Commander, as it may eaſily appear, by the ſtout reſiſtance which he made againſt the whole Power of *France*, and the Deluge of Blood which the Purchaſe coſt the King, no leſs than the ſlaughter of above nine thouſand of his ſtouteſt Common Soldiers, and an infinite number of his choiceſt Officers. Nor had he had it neither at ſo cheap a rate, as many believe, could the beſieged but have been relieved in time, with no more than the Recruit of a thouſand Men, and a ſupply of Match, which they began extreamly to want.

It would be too tedious to give an exact account of the bloody Diſputes by day, and Conflicts by night, enlightned with the continual Flames of the Batteries on both ſides, which is the work of a Journal rather than a Hiſtory; and therefore let it ſuffice to ſay, in ſhort, that after the Garriſon by a valiant defence of near three Weeks, was reduced to half their number, by innumerable Batteries, Aſſaults, and Stormings of freſh Aſſailants day and night; and the remainder quite tired out with continual labour and watching, the Governour was at length forced, by the Petitions of the Magiſtrates and Eccleſiaſticks of the Place, to Capitulate, and ſurrender upon the moſt honourable terms of War. Of all which when the Governour made his report to his Highneſs, he was ſo well ſatisfied in the Gallantry of his Performance, that he preſently preferr'd him to be Major-General of his Army.

For indeed, the conteſt had been ſo ſharp for the time, and ſo mortal to the *French*, that the King, ſo ſoon as he had taken the Town, thought he had done enough for that Summer; and therefore, after he had demoliſhed the Fortifications of *Tongres*, he broke up his Army, and ſent one part of it to the recruit of *Turenne*, another to waſte and harraſs the Country of *Treves*, in regard the Elector had taken part with the Emperour, and three Brigades more to reinforce his Army to *Holland*.

Thus

Thus the *French* Army being diſperſed, and the *Engliſh* Fleet after the laſt Engagement being retired from the Coaſt of *Holland*, the Prince of *Orange* now at more liberty, and not enduring to lye ſtill, called off his Forces that lay for the defence of *Zeland*, to joyn with the reſt of the Army; and decamping from *Ramsdonk*, of a ſudden ſate down before *Naerden*, with five and twenty thouſand Men. His Highneſs took up his Quarters at *Buſſum*, Count *Waldeck* in the Church-yard of *Looſdrecht*, *Anketveen*, and *Helverſum*, while Major-General *de Fariaux* commanded the Cavalry. In the mean time the Duke of *Luxemburg* having drawn together a Body of ten thouſand Men, beſides four Regiments of *Munſter*-Horſe, advanced within view of the Prince's Circumvallations and Entrenchments, which were by that time finiſhed; but not daring to attempt the ſuccour of the Town, the Prince proceeded, ſtormed the Counterſcarp and Ravelin before the *Huyſer Port*, and after three hours reſiſtance, made himſelf Maſter of both; forced the beſieged to retire in great confuſion into the City, and the next day, upon the loſs of their Defences, to beat a Parley; which procured the ſurrender of the Town, upon Articles to march out, with Colours flying, Drums beating, and two pieces of Canon.

When the Garriſon marched out, the Governour ſaluted his Highneſs with a profound ſubmiſſion; and it is ſaid, that he aſſured the Prince, that he had Reaſons ſufficient to ſurrender the Town in ſo few days, which he would declare in due time and place to his Maſter the King. But it ſeems his reaſons were not ſufficient; for he was condemned to perpetual Impriſonment, and had his Sword broken over his Head at *Utrecht*. For indeed it was admired by all men, that the *French* ſhould ſo eaſily yield up ſo ſtrong a Hold, and ſo well provided for its defence. For it had within it a Garriſon of 2930 Men, and wanted neither Proviſion nor Ammunition, beſides, that the *French*, while they were Maſters of it, had greatly added to the ſtrength of the Fortifications.

But whatſoever were the cauſe, whether the diviſions

between the *Switzers* and *French*, as ſome conclude, or any other, his Highneſs won it in four days, and loſt no more than a hundred men ſlain, and two hundred wounded, in a Conqueſt ſo important, whereas the Beſieged loſt many more; which is uſually contrary to the cuſtom of Sieges. Rather therefore, the true cauſe of ſo quick a diſpatch of a Leaguer, lookt upon to be ſo difficult, may be attributed to the courage of his Highneſs, who ſpared not to expoſe his Perſon in all places of greateſt danger, as well in the Trenches, as upon the Batteries, to animate the Souldiers by his Example. Nor was his Highneſs leſs careful to preſerve, than to acquire; and therefore, after he had given all neceſſary Orders for the repair of the Fortifications, and ſettlement of the Garriſon, he made the Count *de Coningſmark*, a Commander of known Reſolution and Experience, Governour of the Place. Which done, he return'd to the *Hague*, to prepare for greater Deſigns.

For now the *States* of the *United Provinces*, having entred into a more ſtrict Alliance with *Spain*, for mutual Defence againſt the *French*, as the common enemy of both, by which they were oblig'd to aſſiſt each other with their joynt Forces; and the Emperour alſo, having at the ſame time leagu'd himſelf in the ſame Confederacy, (which gave it the Name of the *Tripple Alliance*) in purſuance of which, his Army that was to be no leſs then twenty thouſand Foot and ten thouſand Horſe; was already upon their march to the common aſſiſtance, his Highneſs therefore, that he might do ſomething remarkable before the ſeaſon of the Year ſlipt away, ſends his Army before to *Roſendael* in *Brabant*, and making haſte himſelf after it, joyns with the *Count de Monterey*, who readily yielded the precedence and command of the whole to his Highneſs. Thereupon his Highneſs, finding that *Conde* had changed his Poſt upon Intelligence of this Conjunction, and lay ſo ſtrongly Entrench'd, that it was impoſſible to aſſail him in his *Faſtneſs*, he march'd directly forward, and between *Andernach* and *Bon*, joyned with the Imperial Army under the Command of *Montecuculi*. In his march he ſummoned *Rhinbach*; which, through the Obſtinacy of a Seditious Burgher,

Burgher, who encouraged the reſt to reſiſtance, refuſing to ſubmit, he commanded the *Sieur Valkenburgh*, with two Regiments of Dragoons and two of Foot to ſtorm the Town. Which was done with that fury, that the Soldiers upon their firſt entrance put all to the Sword that came in their way, and among the reſt hang'd up the Burgher that had occaſioned the unreaſonable reſiſtance.

Thus the Confederates being joyned, the Siege of *Bon* was reſolved upon, and the Marqueſs of *Arſintar*, to that purpoſe, ſent to take up his Quarters at *Reſſenig*. The next day *Montecuculi* lodged the Imperialiſts at *Goedesbergh*, and his Highneſs lay with his Forces at *Rijndorf*, while General *Spork* with the Imperial Cavalry, quarter'd himſelf on the other ſide of the Town near the *Weſter-waldt*.

Bon is a conſiderable Town, by the *Romans* called *Julia Bonna*, ſeated upon the *Rhine*, about four Leagues from *Cologne*, and being then in the hands of the Elector of *Cologne* and the *French*, was by them furniſh'd with a Garriſon of two thouſand Men under the Command of Gen. *Lants-berghen*, and ſtor'd with Proviſions and Ammunition of all ſorts, beſides fourſcore great Guns mounted upon their Walls and Bulwarks. However, the Confederates not thinking *Naerden* ſufficient Payment for the loſs of *Maeſtricht*, reſolved to have this Town too into the bargain. Nor durſt *Conde* attempt to give them any Interruption himſelf, only he ſent Marſhal *d' Humieres* with a Body of 7000 Horſe, to face the Leaguer, and at the beginning of the Siege, to try what reinforcements of Men he could put into the Garriſon. To that purpoſe he advanc'd as far as *Birchem*, from whence he ſent a Party of a hundred Horſe, who feining to be the Duke of *Lorain*'s Men, were let paſs by the Sentinels, through the Quarter of the *Imperialiſts*, and got into the Town. But another Hundred hoping to have the ſame ſucceſs through the Quarter where his *Highneſs* lay, found the Sentinels more miſtruſtful, ſo that they were almoſt all cut to pieces or taken priſoners; which ſad tidings reaching the ears of five hundred more, that lay hid behind a neighbouring Wood upon the ſame deſign, they retreated in a

good hour, to their Body. For by this time General *Spork* had drawn forth an equal Body of Horſe, to encounter the *French*. Which the Marſhal underſtanding, made a ſwift retreat out of his reach, and returned to *Utrecht*.

On the other ſide, the Beſiegers having now finiſhed their Batteries, and Approaches, gave the beſieged little or no reſt; and after they had brought three Mines to that perfection, that they were ready to ſpring, were preparing for a general ſtorm. However, the Confederate Generals, willing to ſpare their Men, if ſofter means would prevail, ſent a new Summons to the Governour to ſurrender the Town, more eſpecially ſince they had no hopes of relief; declaring withal, that if they pleaſed they might ſend out whom they thought fit, to ſee the Mines that were ready to play, upon refuſal to ſurrender upon Compoſition; and that they were reſolv'd to make a General Aſſault, and put to the Sword, without exception, all that they found in Arms. Which frightful Menaces ſo ſcared the Garriſon, that after a Siege of few days, they beat a Parley, and the ſame day the uſual Conditions being agreed upon, of marching forth with Colours flying and Drums beating, the Place was ſurrendred with all the Proviſion and Ammunition, and great Guns, excepting two that were allow'd by the Compoſition. Of the *French* Garriſon there marched out 1500. The reſt being all killed or wounded: and of thoſe fifteen hundred all the *Germans* deſerted their Convoy, and liſted themſelves in the Emperour's ſervice.

The Town thus taken, his Highneſs drew off to *Weſſeling*, and thence falling down lower with his own, and the Imperial Army, (both which he now commanded upon the return of *Montecuculi* to *Vienna* till the arrival of the Duke of *Bournouville*) took in the two Caſtles of *Brevel* and *Lechnich*. Of which, the latter was defended by two hundred *French*, under the Command of a *German*: Who finding the Soldiers, after they had been ſummoned, obſtinately bent to ſtand upon their guard, bethought himſelf of a ſtratagem to bring them to a compliance. To which purpoſe, he ordered the *French* to

go

go down into the lower Court, under pretence of making that good firſt; and when they were all there, pulled up the Draw-bridge behind their backs: by which means finding themſelves expoſed to a far more numerous party, they were conſtrained to ſurrender the place.

This Caſtle in the year 1642. had been beſieged by the whole Army of *Weimar* and *Heſſen*, under the Command of the Counts of *Guebriant* and *Eberſtein*, and battered for ſix Weeks together with extraordinary fury, and yet notwithſtanding all their Efforts, they were conſtrained to raiſe their Siege.

All this while Marſhal *Turenne* kept himſelf at a diſtance; for though when he heard that the Confederates were ſate down before *Bon*, he had a great mind to have attempted the raiſing the Siege, yet when he heard that the Duke of *Lorain* lay quartered upon the Banks of the *Moſelle*, to obſerve his motion, he wheeled about into the Electorate of *Mayence*, highly complaining that he could have no better Intelligence of the Conjunction of the Confederates.

Strange were the Effects of this Expedition of his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange*. For it put the *French* into ſuch a Conſternation to ſee ſuch Recoyls of Fortune, that they who lately menaced with ſo much inſulting Pride, the Ruine of others, were now at their Wits end how to ſave themſelves. Willingly they would have oppoſed his Deſigns, but they wanted Recruits, and found that Men were not ſo ſoon born as killed. Their infinite Multitudes were now reduced to thoſe ſmall Numbers, that they were not able to keep the Field, without extreamly exhauſting their Garriſons. They that were ſuch ill Husbands of the Creation, and ſo profuſe of Humane Race, as to ſquander away ſo many Generations of Mankind, would now have been glad of half their havock'd Multitudes to keep their withered Garlands from dropping from their Foreheads. They that were ſo laviſh of whole Armies, as if they only conquered to depopulate, and cared not what they ſpent of their own Plenty, to be Maſters of the impoveriſhed Rights of others, now found too late, that Victory bought

too dear, was rather Calamity than Conqueſt, ſince Conqueſts could not be preſerved without the Aſſiſtance of the ſame Force with which they were at firſt obtained; beaten at a diſtance by their own Prodigality, and conſtrained to ſurrender back their Victories by their former waſte of Courage and Reſolution. While the Prince on the other ſide, penurious of his Men, and only venturing the Lives of his Soldiers, while he expoſed his own, upon the juſt Call of Self-defence, gained eaſie Triumphs over the Living, for want of the Dead; and Victory courted his Prudence, finding herſelf ſo unſafe in the Raſhneſs of his Enemies, who had fought ſo ill, that they were forced to repent that they had ever been her Favorites. Not upon theſe Conſiderations, but upon theſe Neceſſities, to which they had reduced themſelves, the *French* were compelled to quit a great part of their Conqueſts in the *Low-Countries*, and drain their Garriſons, rather than ſuffer the powerful Armies of the Confederates, to recover the Cities of the *Rhine*, the *Meuſe* and *Moſell* without reſiſtance.

WOERDEN was the firſt Place cleared, as being one of the firſt that had felt their Tyranny. Where the Governor received Orders from the Duke of *Luxemburgh* to demoliſh the Bulwarks of the Town, and to ſend away all the great Guns and Ammunition too. But as in Bodies poſſeſſed, the ejected Spirit never leaves his Habitation without ſome terrible Marks of his Rage before his Expulſion; the Governor, before he ſtirred, ſent for the Magiſtrates, and demanded twenty thouſand *Franks* to redeem their City from Plunder and Conflagration, pretending Orders from the King and Duke of *Luxemburgh*, unleſs they payed the ſaid Sum, to fire the Town. Nor could they prevail with all their Submiſſions to the Duke, whom they attended at *Utrecht*, for leſs than fifteen thouſand Livers to ſave Burning, and one thouſand Livers to preſerve their Paliſado's, with Condition that their Gates, Bulwarks and Caſtle ſhould remain entire; for the Payment of which, they gave Hoſtages. Yet ſuch was their Treachery nevertheleſs, that the *French* had undermined the Caſtle and one of the Baſtions; and had cer-

certainly blown up both, had not the Ruin been prevented by the Diſcovery of certain *Switzers*.

HERDERWICK was utterly diſmantled; nevertheleſs they demanded 12000 Livers for their Kindneſs in leaving it; but in regard that all the Inhabitants of Subſtance had left the City before, there was nothing to be had.

The Fort of *CREVECEUR* was utterly demoliſhed; yet they offered to leave the Church and Governor's Houſe upon the payment of 3000 *Piſtoles* by thoſe of *Bois le Duke*; which being refuſed, they ſpared neither the Houſe, nor the Church.

BOMMEL, a Fortreſs of great conſequence; upon the Fortifications of which, the King of *France* had expended above ſixty thouſand Livers, was quitted at the ſame time; the Inhabitants giving twelve Hoſtages to pay thirty ſix thouſand Livers for the Ranſom of their Houſes.

UTRECHT, where the *French* had been always conſtrained to keep a Garriſon of ſix or ſeven thouſand Men at leaſt, and therefore proving now too chargeable, was the next deſerted Place; but not without Hoſtages given for the Payment of one hundred thouſand Crowns. And now the *French* being all departed in one day, the Burgomaſters abſolved each other from their Oaths, which they had taken againſt the Reſtoration of the Prince of *Orange*, and ſent their Deputies to his Highneſs, to acknowledge him their Stateholder, in the Name of the whole Province. A Change no leſs ſudden than grateful to all the People.

In the ſame manner *Elburgh* upon the South-Sea, *Campen* in *Overyſſel*, and *Hattem* were quitted by the *French*, and *Steenwick* and *Meppell* by the *Munſterians*.

Thus his Highneſs may in ſome meaſure be ſaid to have outdone *Cæſar* himſelf; for he vanquiſhed where he neither *came* nor *ſaw*. Only the Enemy ſubmitted to his diſtant Conduct, beholding the Period of their Victories in his riſing Glory.

1674.

IN conſideration of this great and unexpected Turn of Affairs, occaſioned by the great Wiſdom and Proweſs of his Highneſs, the States-General, no leſs Grateful, than the Prince had been Indefatigable for the Publick, not only confirmed the Charge of *Stat-holder* of the Provinces of *Holland* and *Weſt-Friezland*, in the Perſon of his Highneſs, during Life, but ſetled it likewiſe upon the Heirs-Males of his Body, begotten in Lawful Marriage, according to the Tenor of the following Decree, not to be left out in this place, as being ſo fair a Monument of his ſurpaſſing Merits.

Friday, February the 2d, 1674.

HAving taken into Deliberation, by way of Reſumption, what the Lords Deputies of the City of Haerlem propoſed to the Aſſembly the twenty third of January laſt paſt, whether it would not be expedient, that the Charge of Stat-holder and Captain and Admiral-General of the Provinces of Holland and Weſt-Friezland, and Captain and Admiral-General of the United Provinces, ſhould deſcend upon the Heirs-Males of his Highneſs the Prince of Orange, begotten in Lawful Marriage, as by the Rolls of the ſame Date more amply may appear. WE, the Body of the Nobility, and the Deputies of the Cities, in the Name, and on the Behalf of the Burghers and Commonalty of the ſaid Cities, have declared, and do declare by theſe Preſents, that having deliberately conſidered the State and Conſtitution of the Government of theſe Countries, as it was in former Times, by the Bleſſing of God, under the moſt Illuſtrious Princes of Orange, of glorious Memory, His Highneſs's Predeceſſors, and particularly what has befallen this Republic, for theſe twenty three or twenty four years laſt paſt, till now, we have obſerved that this Republic has been afflicted with ſeveral Calamities and Diſaſters, as well Domeſtic as Foraign, ever ſince the ſad and unfortunate Year 1650. That as to Our Foraign Calamities, We have never been

been without Wars, or the fears of Wars: More particularly, one moſt dreadful War between the Kingdom of England *and theſe States, which ſhook the very Foundations of the Government of theſe Countries, ſo that hardly it has recovered Breath ever ſince the ſaid War; and another againſt the Crown of* Portugal, *in the years* 1656. *and* 1658. *and* 1659. *and another occaſioned by the Intereſt of the Northern Wars. That in the year* 1664. *they had another new War with the King of* Great Britain, *and now this preſent War more ſad and fatal than all the reſt. And that during the whole courſe of the ſaid War, this Republick has been conſtrained to ſuffer many Affronts from her Neighbours, to whom She was before a Terrour. That as to Our Domeſtic Affairs, We have been overwhelmed with Inteſtine Diviſions and Factions. That from the year* 1650. *to the year* 1660. *ſeveral Members of this Republic have had a particular Averſion to the Perſon of the preſent Prince of* Orange, *the only Son of that Illuſtrious Family; and that others on the contrary have zealouſly maintained, that the ſaid Prince ought not to be ſo ungratefully abandoned. That the King of* Great Britain *being recalled to the Government of his Dominions, and paſſing through theſe Countries, in order to his embarking for* England, *this Republic teſtified, as well to his Majeſty, as to the Princeſſes Royal and Dowager, that they would take particular care of the Intereſt and Education of his highneſs, and to reſtore him to the Dignities which his Illuſtrious Anceſtors, of glorious memory, had enjoyed. But that after the death of the ſaid Princeſs Royal, all Good Will and Affection toward his Highneſs was loſt, and no farther notice taken of him, till of late, that ſome care was taken of his Education, and that at length, toward the end of* 1671. *or* 1672. *great Conteſts aroſe about the Election of his Highneſs to be Captain-General of the Militia of this Country. That we have found by ſad experience, that the ſaid Inteſtine Diviſions and Factions have given an occaſion to the Enemies of this Republick to affront us every moment, as knowing well that they render Us uncapable to mind Our own Defence, by the Violation of that Union which laid the Foundation of this Republick, and which God has ſo mi-*

raculouſly

raculouſly bleſſed. And that the Differences which aroſe every day about the Election of a Captain-General of the Militia, and the Diſcords which hapned among the principal Members of this Republic, were the occaſions that retarded and hindred thoſe Deliberations and Reſolutions, which of neceſſity ought to have been taken, to repel foraign Force, and made us ſpend in idle Diſputes, that precious time which ought to have been better husbanded. That the ſaid Diviſions were the reaſon, that toward the Year 1971, *when the King of* France *openly declared that he would make a War againſt this Country, we conſumed whole Months together in deliberating about the Election of a Captain-General, and whether to pitch upon the Perſon of his Highneſs, which time ought to have been ſpent in providing for the Defence of the State. And that for the ſame reaſon it was, that the King of* France *Invaded this Country by force of Arms, in the Year* 1672, *and reduced us to the laſt Extremities, and hazard of total Ruine. That therefore the Lords, the States of* Holland, *have deemed it neceſſary, as the only Expedient that they can imagine or hope for, abſolutely to pluck up by the roots the Occaſions of the ſaid Factions and Diviſions, to prevent their falling any more into thoſe Misfortunes and Miſeries to which they have been hitherto expoſed; and on the other ſide, to acknowledge the great Services which the moſt Illuſtrious Houſe of* Orange *has from time to time performed for the Preſervation and Eſtabliſhment of this Republic. For theſe Reaſons, the Lords of the Body of the Nobility, as alſo the Deputies of the Cities have unanimouſly conferred, and by theſe Preſents do confer, in the Name, and on the Behalf of the Burghers and Commonalty of the ſaid Cities, upon his Highneſs, and his Heirs Male, begotten in Lawful Matrimony, the Charge of Statholder, Captain and Admiral-General of the Provinces of* Holland *and* Weſt-Frieſland, *with all the Dignities, Preeminences, Prerogatives, Rites and Privileges thereto belonging, without any Exception or Reſervation, in as ample, and in the ſame manner as the ſame Charge is at preſent executed by his Highneſs: And conſequently, that after the Deceaſe of his ſaid Highneſs (to whom nevertheleſs*

the

the States of Holland *with a long and happy Life, in all Health and Proſperity) the ſaid Charge of Stat-holder, Captain and Admiral-General of the Provinces of* Holland *and* Weſt-Friezland, *with all the Dignities, Preeminences, Prerogatives, Rites and Priviledges thereunto belonging, without any Exception or Reſervation, ſhall devolve and deſcend upon his Heirs-males, begotten in Lawful Wedlock. In purſuance of which Reſolution, the ſaid Lords of the Body of the Nobility have ordered Letters-Patents to be drawn up, and ſealed with the Great Seal of the ſaid Provinces,* &c.

The ſame day alſo the States of *Zeland* conferred the ſame Dignities upon his Highneſs, and made him withal Hereditary Noble of their Province.

And now it was high time to cleanſe that Augean Stable of Diſorder and Confuſion, with which the *French* had over-run and contaminated the ſettled Government of thoſe Provinces, where they had left behind them the Slot and Defilement of their Licentious Violence. Therefore the Prince, well knowing it was no leſs the Glory of a Soveraign Governour to correct and reform at home, as well as to conquer abroad, and that the recovery of loſt Territories was but half performance, till they were reduc'd to their Priſtine Methods of antient Laws and Cuſtoms, haſtened to *Utrecht*, to reſettle the Government of that Province.

To which purpoſe, he was no ſooner arrived in that City, but he repaired to the Aſſembly of Eſtates, and in place made a new Election of Perſons to officiate in the Colledge of Counſellors Elect. After that, he made a new choice of others to repreſent the Body of the Nobility; and in the laſt place, made a ſelect choice of Men of Ability and Integrity to officiate in the Magiſtracy and Council of the City.

This done, his Highneſs gave them to underſtand, that at the requeſt of ſeveral of the Burghers, he had drawn up a Draught of certain Orders, for the better Government of the Province for the future, yet that he would not impoſe any thing upon them, without the advice

Advice and Approbation of them that were preſent. Upon which they all retired to their ſeveral Aſſembly, and after due Debate, unanimouſly ſubmitted to the Regulations that his Highneſs had propoſed, which were to this effect.

That the Government of the Province ſhould reſide in the hands of three diſtinct Societies as formerly, the Counſellors Elect, the Body of the Nobility, and the Deputies of the Cities. That the Counſellors Elect ſhould continue in their Places during the ſpaces of three years, and no longer, and that at the expiration of the ſaid term (of which they were to give three months notice to the Governour-General) it ſhould be lawful for him to continue the old ones, or make new Alterations as he pleaſed himſelf, without contradiction, provided he introduced none but ſuch as were of the Reformed Religion; and moreover, that of theſe Counſellors Elect, four were to be Burghers, and four Gentlemen.

That the Governour-General ſhould have the diſpoſal of the vacant Places of the Provoſts, as alſo of the Revenues of the Vicaridges belonging to the Provoſt, Deans, and Friery Chapters, ſo ſoon as they ſhould become vacant, for the relief of poor Miniſters, and Widows of Miniſters, and for other Pious Uſes within the Province. That to avoid Diſputes about the Convocation of the Nobility, the Governour ſhould have the ſole Power, upon the death of any one or more of that number, to inveſt in his or their room, ſuch perſon or perſons as he ſhould think fit, of the Reformed Religion, with reſpect to their Age, their Birth, and Eſtate, with ſeveral other particulars, in reference to the Bayliffs of Cities, Preſidents, Advocates, Fiſcals, Marſhals of the reſpective Quarters, and all Military Employments, of which, all the Vacancies after the firſt Nomination and Election of the Governour-General, were to be, for the future, at his diſpoſal. And laſtly, there was the form of an Oath produced, which every one that were preſent took without any ſcruple, and which all others were obliged to take, *Mutatis Mutandis*, according

cording to their ſeveral Functions. Laſtly, upon a Propoſal, whether it were not proper to conſer the Office of Governour-General, Captain and Admiral-General of the Province, upon his Highneſs and his Male Iſſue lawfully begotten; the Propoſition was unanimouſly embraced, and the Dignity conferred without any farther delay. A ſtrange and happy Turn, from conſtrained Servility, to willing and unanimous Submiſſion; the one reſembling Hell, the other Heaven upon Earth.

At the ſame time General *Rabenhaupt*, with the Militia of *Friſe* and *Groningben*, re-enforced with the Regiment of *Burmania*, having taken the Field, made himſelf Maſter of *Northom*, which he manned with ſixteen Troops of Horſe, and ſix companies of Foot, and thence advancing into the *Twent*, took in ſeveral leſſer places, with an intent to clear thoſe parts of the *Munſterians*, to which purpoſe he prolonged his March as far as *Nyenhuys*. Preſently the *Munſterians*, upon notice of his abſence, ſurround *Northom* again with five Regiments of Horſe, three Troops of Dragoons, and three hundred Foot under M. General *Nagel*, and beat the Out-guards of the Garriſon into the Town. Of which General *Rabenhaupt* having intelligence, haſtens back to the relief of the place, and forced the Enemy to a ſwift retreat, with the loſs of ſixty men ſlain upon the place, and fifty taken Priſoners. The next day he returned to *Nyenhuys*, and becauſe he was reſolved to make quick Work, gave order to five ſeveral Regiments, to ſtorm the Town in five ſeveral places at once. Which was done with that fury, that after a quarter of an hours diſpute, the Enemy was driven into the Caſtle, which was only a Houſe environed with a ſingle Rampart defended by two great Guns; which the Aſſailants purſuing their advantage, were juſt ready to enter, when the Enemy cryed for Quarter, and had it granted to the whole Garriſon, to the number of three hundred and twenty Foot, and thirteen Officers; and two hundred and ſeventy Horſe and Dragoons, and fifteen Officers. General *Rabenhaupt* thus ſucceſsful, returns to his Winter-

Winter-Quarters, and diſperſes his Men; which *Nagel* had no ſooner notice of, but he returns to *Nyenhuys*, and recovers it again for the Biſhop of *Munſter*.

However, the Biſhop of *Munſter* not liking theſe uncertain Chances of War, or rather dreading, upon the approach of the *Imperialiſts*, the loſs of his own, while he was invading his Neighbours Territories, makes his peace with the Emperour. Which ſo diſcouraged the *French* in the Frontier Garriſons of their *Netherland* Conqueſts, not yet forſaken, that the Marqueſs of *Bellefonds*, who ſucceeded Marſhal *d' Humieres* in the government of thoſe Parts, reſolved to quit the reſt, under pretence of a greater neceſſity to preſerve their Acquiſts upon the *Rhine*. Beſides, he had Intelligence of the Prince of *Orange*'s intended March into *Brabant*, with thirty thouſand men, to joyn the *Spaniſh* Army of twenty thouſand more. So that the Marqueſs, inſtead of fortifying, began to think of demoliſhing all the Places that remained under his Command. *Tiel* compounded for twenty thouſand Florins, to ſave themſelves from Plunder and Conflagration, and two thouſand for the preſervation of their Bulwarks. *Zutphen* agreed for ſeventy thouſand Florins, and gave twelve Hoſtages: and the City of *Arnheim* concluded with the *French* Treaſurer, for a hundred and ſixty Florins, beſides four thouſand Buſhels of Wheat and Meal, which they were obliged to ſend to *Graves*. *Deventer* was alſo cleared by the Biſhop of *Munſter* for Four thouſand *Rix Dollers*, and gave Hoſtages. And thus the whole Province of *Overyſſel* regained their ancient Liberty, under their Native and Lawful Soveraigns. Thereupon his Highneſs deputed Commiſſioners to make ſuch Alterations in the Government as was requiſite for the preſent, and to ſettle the Affairs of thoſe Parts, till he had leiſure to make a ſecond Review, and compleat the Regulation of the *French* Diſorders.

The King of *France* ſeemed highly to be offended at theſe Proceedings of the Marqueſs, caſts him quite out of his favour, ſends him back into *France*, and as it were exiles him to *Bourgoiſs*, commanding him not to appear

appear at Court. Though others were of opinion that they were only Bravado's to conceal his Neceſſities, and that he was glad of thoſe re-enforcements to carry on his Deſigns upon *Franchie Conte*. However, all men aſcribed the Honour of theſe conſtrained Deſertions to his Highneſs of *Orange*; and well indeed they might, as being the Perſon who like another *Scipio*, by carrying the War into the Enemies Country, had in leſs than two years time, compelled all the *French Hannibals* to quit his own, and to look after the main Chance.

However, the King of *France* having thus loſt in one place, like the Sea, reſolves to gain in another, and to that purpoſe enters with an Inundation of Men into *Franchie Conte*. Where under the Protection and Guard of another Army as numerous as his own, commanded by the Prince of *Conde*, in a ſhort time he took *Becanſon*, *Dole*, *Malins*, and made himſelf Maſter, according to his wiſhes, of the whole Province.

Upon the Aſſembling of theſe two numerous Bodies together, his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange* repairs to the Army at *Bergben op Zoom*; from whence he marches for *Malines*, and lay upon his Guard in *Brabant*, during all the time of the King of *France*'s new Neighbourhood. But he being departed for *Paris*, after he had compleated his Conqueſt, with the loſs of many a brave Officer, and ſome thouſands of his ſtouteſt Souldiers, the *Imperialiſts* fall down to *Namurr*, and by taking of the Caſtle and *Dinant*, having obtained a free paſſage over the *Menſe*, croſs the River, and joyn with the reſt of the Confederates toward the end of *July*. At what time after a ſhort Conference between the three Generals, it was ordered that General *Souches* ſhould lead the Van; that his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange* ſhould command the main Battle, and the Count *de Monterey* the Rear-guard. In this order it was that the Confederates prepared to attack the Prince of *Conde*, who with an Army of Fifty thouſand men, lay encamped behind the River *Pitton*, to thwart the Deſigns of the Enemy. On the other ſide the Confederates being Sixty thouſand ſtrong, reſolved to draw the Prince from his Poſt,

and

and give him Battle; to which purpoſe they marched directly toward him; being plentifully ſupplied with all manner of Proviſions out of *Brabant*.

With this reſolution the three Armies arrived at *Nivel*, at the beginning of *Auguſt*; where they encamped for ſome days. But becauſe they ſaw that the Prince of *Conde* made no Preparations to come forth, but rather ſought to fortifie himſelf to greater advantages within his Trenches, the Confederates thought it neceſſary to make their Approaches a little nearer to him; to try whether he would hazard a Battle in the open Field. To which purpoſe being arrived within five or ſix miles of the *French* Camp, they laboured by all the ways imaginable to draw the Prince of *Conde* out of his Trenches. But all in vain; for the Prince, whether it were by order of the King, or the effect of his own deliberations, would not ſtir. Thereupon ſeeing all their Pains proved ineffectual, they reſolved to attack ſome place of importance belonging to the *French*, believing that the Prince would iſſue forth to relieve it, and that ſo they might compaſs Deſigns.

With theſe Reſolutions of his Highneſs of *Orange*, decamped from *Seneff*, and directed his March toward *Binch*. The *Imperialiſts* had the Van-guard, the *Holland* Army the main Battel, and the *Spaniards* brought up the Rear. Moreover, by reaſon of the narrowneſs of the Paſſages the Cavalry marched on the left hand, the Infantry in the middle, and the Artillery together with the Baggage on the left. And to ſecure their March, the Count of *Vaudemont* was left behind with 4000 Horſe, and ſome Dragoons.

The Prince of *Conde* having Intelligence of this Movement, and knowing well the difficulty of the ways, through which the Confederates were to paſs, failed not to put his Men in order. However, becauſe he did not think it ſo ſafe to cope with Confederates upon equal Terms, he therefore let the Vanguard paſs, and a good part of the main Body ſome leagues before. But when he thought they were advanced ſo far before, that they could not return in time, he then thought it high time

to

to fall upon their Rear-guard. Thereupon the Prince drew out of his Trenches, and march'd directly againſt the Cavalry commanded by the Prince of *Vaudemont*, who finding himſelf in a Country where the Horſe could not ſo well act their parts, by reaſon of the many Ditches and Encloſures, ſent to his Highneſs of *Orange* for two Battalions of Infantry, while his Horſe were engaged with the Enemy; thereupon his Highneſs ſent him three, under the command of the young Prince *Maurice* of *Naſſau*. Being arrived, they were placed on the other ſide of *Seneff*, before the Cavalry, in a kind of a Thicket. But foraſmuch as the whole Army of the Enemy was now marched out of their Trenches, it was thought convenient to ſend for the Troops that lay on the other ſide of the River which runs by *Seneff*; and then they planted the three Battalions of Foot, which were poſted before in the Wood, cloſe by the Bridge of *Seneff*, over which the *French* were to paſs. There they had not been long, before the *French* attacked as well the Cavalry as the Dragoons and Infantry, but notwithſtanding all their fury, they could not force them to forſake their Poſt, ſo that the *French* were forced to quit their deſign of gaining that Paſs, and made a Bridge over the River a little higher. So that after they had by that means joyned all their Forces together, the Confederate Cavalry was ranged behind the Infantry, yet ſo as they were ſtill ready to come up to the Relief. In the mean time the Foot fired with great fury upon the *French* that had paſt the River, and had made a great ſlaughter. But in regard the Confederates were very much ſtreightened for want of Ground, and that the *French* fell in from all parts of the Wood, the Confederate Infantry was forced to recoil, being overlaid by the numbers of the Enemy, which was the reaſon that they loſt ſeveral of their principal Officers. For here it was that the young Prince *Maurice*, who commanded the Brigade, was taken Priſoner with ſeveral other Officers, and that Lieutenant-Colonel *Machwits* was killed.

So ſoon as the Foot were retired, the *French* rigorouſly puſhed on toward the Cavalry, commanded by the Prince of *Vaudemont*, and the Prince of *Conde* began to range his Men in Battel-array, ordering his Foot to march under the coverts of the Hedges and Buſhes. Thereupon the Confederate Horſe were ordered to give them a home Charge. Which when they were preparing to do, they found a hollow way between both Parties, ſo that they were ordered to wheel off to the right hand, and joyn the reſt of the Army, for fear the Enemy ſhould intercept their Retreat, and charge them in the Flanck. The *French* obſerving that, wheeled away to the left, and made ſuch haſt to charge that body of Cavalry, that the Prince of *Vaudemont* had only time to order the three Battalions of Foot to make head againſt the Enemy. This firſt Encounter proved unfortunate to the Confederates; for that the three Commanders in Chief of this Brigade were all taken Priſoners, with ſeveral others of the greateſt Quality; as the Duke of *Holſtein*, the Prince of *Solms* and *Permillac*, who were Priſoners, and Mounſieur *de Languerac* ſlain. And thô all endeavours were uſed to Rally the four Battalions, there was no good to be done; for they betook themſelves to flight, without diſcharging one Volley upon the Enemy. True it is that the Prince of *Vaudemont*, ſhewed all the marks of an extraordinary Courage and Valour: but all his labours were ineffectual. And here it was alſo, that his Highneſs of *Orange* gave particular teſtimonies of his undaunted Bravery, leaving nothing omitted which the moſt ancient and moſt experienced Commander could have done: for he threw himſelf with his Sword in his hand before the daunted Fugitives, and by all the ways imaginable endeavoured to ſtop their flight, and with his own example to encourage them to renew the Combat: So that he was often in danger either of being ſlain or taken Priſoner. But there was no good to be done till they were got under the Shelter of a Body of the *Spaniſh* Horſe, that was poſted at the Foot of a little Hill between them and the Village of *Ty*. Another Party of thoſe Run-aways joyned

joyned themſelves with ſixteen Battalions of Foot, under the Command of the Duke of *Villa Hermoſa*, who when the purſuing *French* drew near, marched againſt them at the head of his Troops, and performed all that could be expected from a Perſon of his Valour and Conduct, in the deſperate condition of Affairs at that time. The reſt of the diſmayed Confederates joyned themſelves with a body of Infantry, that was likewiſe poſted at the foot of the ſame Mountain.

On the other ſide the Prince of *Conde*, who was advanced ſo far in the purſuit, fell furiouſly upon the *Spaniſh* Cavalry, and the Foot which he had already driven thither for their ſecurity. Which cauſed the Marqueſs of *Aſſentar* to ſend for four Regiments more from the foot of the Mountain to reinforce his Cavalry. Which the Prince of *Conde* obſerving, ordered five or ſix Battalions of Infantry to advance, together with a Brigade of Horſe, and then dividing his conjoyned Troops into right and left Wings, charged the Confederate Horſe in Front, and put them into ſome diſorder. And here it was again that the Marqueſs did the utmoſt he could, by his example, to Rally his Men and reſtore the Fight, till at length, being wounded in ſeveral places, he was at laſt ſlain outright at the head of his Troops. The Horſe being thus diſordered, fell foul upon the four Battalions of Infantry, that were ſent to their Relief, and put them likewiſe into a great Confuſion, notwithſtanding all the induſtry of the Duke of *Villa Hermoſa*, and the Prince of *Vaudemont* to Rally them again; and not only ſo, but they diſordered the remaining part of the Infantry that lay poſted under the Mountain, tho' Count *Waldeck* did all that he could to unite them again: But finding 'twas all but labour loſt, he charged the Victorious Enemy in Flank, with a freſh body of Horſe, which had joyned him but a little before: And certainly there was all the reaſon in the World, to have expected a good effect of this Encounter, conſidering the Valour and Experience of the Commander, had he been well ſeconded; but being overlaid by the numbers of the Enemy, he reſcued himſelf out of the Med-

ley, after he had ſlain two of his Antagoniſts, hand to hand; and at length, bleeding from three Wounds, recovered the reſt of the Body.

In the heat of this hurly-burly, ſome of the Enemies Battalions had made themſelves Maſters of the Baggage belonging to the *Holland* Army, and had pillaged ſome part. For the Waggoners, inſtead of barricading themſelves within their Wagons, cut their Horſes Harneſs, and flew full ſpeed without ever looking behind them, ſome to *Bruſſels*, ſome to other places, where they ſpread a report that all was loſt. And indeed the Prince had had a very great Advantage in this Battle, could he have been contented with what he had already gained; but his impetuous Nature would have all or none; which happened to be his Fate at length.

For after he had embattelled together his own Life-Guard, his *Cuiraſſeers*, and the reſt of his Troops that lay behind, he advanced toward the main Body of the Confederates, commanded next under his Highneſs of *Orange* by Prince *Maurice*, the *Rhine-Grave*, and Major-General *Vane*. At the ſame time General *Souches*, who lead the Vanguard, and was advanced ſome hours march before the reſt of the Army, having intelligence of what had paſt, haſtened back with all ſpeed, and by one of the Clock in the Afternoon joyned the main Battle. At what time his Highneſs advantagiouſly embattelled the *Imperialiſts* and *Spaniards* in the left Wing, and gave the right to his own Men: And then it was, that the Fight renewed with more Fury and Vigour than ever.

The Duke of *Luxembargh* commanded the right Wing of the *French*, and the Duke of *Noüailles* the left; for the Marqueſs of *Rochfort*, the Chevalier *Tourilles*, and the Count of *Montal* were all three wounded already.

The firſt Conteſt of the *French* was the moſt furious that ever was known, during the whole War: Honour, Hatred, Revenge, Hope and Deſpair were the Incentives of their Valour on both ſides. Hope of Victory animated both Armies, and both equally deſperate ſeemed equally reſolved rather to dye than be overcome. His Highneſs the Prince of *Orange*, ſhewing himſelf in all places,

places, omitted no pains upon an occaſion ſo important, that might conduce to Victory; ſometimes throwing himſelf into the thickeſt of his Enemies, to the palpable hazard of his Life. And the Souldiers being animated by his example, fought with Emulation to out-do one another; ſo that it may be truely ſaid, that they withſtood the impetuous ſhock of the Enemy with a reſiſtance not to be expreſt. Which having diſappointed the Prince of *Conde*'s expectations, he endeavoured to wheel off his Men to the left; but Mr. *de Fariaux*, a Perſon of approved Valour, and Major-General of the *Holland* Army, being ſent with ſome Squadrons of Infantry, ſeconded by the Count of *Chavagnax*, who commanded a Battalion of *Imperial* Cavalry, to prevent that deſign, withſtood the *French* with ſo much bravery, that they were forced to retire; and upon that, the Count ſent for four Pieces of Canon, with which he annoyed the Enemy much more. General *Souches* flung himſelf into the thickeſt of his Enemies, and gave thoſe proofs of a more than ordinary Valour, which he was always wont to do upon the ſame occaſions. The Prince of *Lorain* did no leſs, as he that was ſeen ſeveral times to fight at the head of the firſt Ranks, though not without the loſs of ſome blood, he was at length forced to retire out of the Fight. Prince *Pio*, who was drawn up with with his Brigade near the Village of *Seneff*, accompanied with the Marqueſs of *Grana*, and the Count of *Staremburgh*, after he had ſignalized himſelf by many brave exploits, was wounded in the thigh with a Musket ſhot. But for all that, the Marqueſs of *Grana*, and the Sons of General *Souches* behaved themſelves ſo valiantly at the head of their Squadrons, that the *French Switzers* could not gain upon them an inch of ground, which contributed very much to the enſuing ſucceſs of the Battle.

In the mean time the Prince of *Conde* charged the right Wing of the Confederates with his *Cuiraſſeers*, and the Troops belonging to the King's Houſe; but to as little purpoſe: only that about ſeven a Clock in the evening he broke through two Squadrons Foot that were drawn

drawn up in a Meadow at a distance. But such was then the signal Service which Prince *Maurice* did the States, that he stopped the Impetuosity of the Enemy, and prevented any farther Disorder on that side, with no less Conduct than Courage. The *Rhine-Grave* also, was so far from coming behind any of those, who behaved themselves with the most undaunted Bravery, that it may be truly said, His Courage and Conduct were not a little contributory to the happy event of the Fight; till he was at length constrained to quit the Field by reason of a Wound which he received. Major-General *Vane*, and the *Sieur de Villamire*, having given signal marks of their approved Valour, were both mortally wounded and died of their wounds.

Thus the two Armies fought till night, with an Obstinacy on both sides hardly to be parallel'd, though the Field were all strewed over with the Bodies of the slain and wounded. While the Combatants covered with blood and sweat, encouraged one another the more by the sight of such a dismal Spectacle. You might see whole Battalions on both sides, sometimes recoiling, but then in an instant rallied by the good Conduct of their Leaders: Among whom his Highness the Prince of *Orange* was still the first, who shewed himself in all the heat of Action, encouraging his Men by his magnanimous Example. He was attended also by the Prince of *Friſe*, a young Gentleman of about twenty years of Age, who fought all along by his Highness's side, in the thickest throngs of the Enemy, and performed all those Duties of a Souldier which could be expected from a Prince so young, so valiant and genorous.

And thus the Fury of the *French*, which at the beginning thought to have swept all before them, about ten a Clock at night began to abate; the *French* Infantry, of which they had lost a considerable part, drawing off at a distance, notwithstanding all the endeavours of the Prince of *Conde* to have brought them on again. So that the Prince, fearing some farther mischief might befal his Army, gave orders also for the Horse to retire; only leaving certain Squadrons of Dragoons behind

hind to ſecure their Retreat; which he likewiſe afterwards drew off, ſo ſoon as he found the remaining part of his Army ſafe; leaving by that means the Victory and Poſſeſſion of the Field and Battle to his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange*; who, two hours after the Retreat of the *French* drew off his Army alſo to their appointed Quarters. However, he left Monſieur *de Fariaux* all that night in the Field to obſerve the Motions of the Enemies; who ſo ill digeſting the rude Entertainment the day before, were ſo far from making any farther Attempt, that the Prince of *Conde* only left ſome few Dragoons in his old Quarters, and retired three hours March up higher, fearing the purſuit of the Confederates.

Thus ended this bloody Battel, wherein the Confederates had the worſt at the beginning, but carried away the Victory at the Concluſion: For on the Enemies ſide were ſlain ſeven thouſand Men outright, beſides the wounded, of which the Prince of *Conde* left above own thouſand five hundred in the Villages round about, upon his leaving his old Quarters at *Pieton*. On the ſide of the Confederates, the whole number of Slain and Wound, taken Priſoners and Deſerters, did not amount to above ſix thouſand five hundred in all: beſides that of the laſt, ſeveral that were diſperced and ſcattered from their Companions in the heat of the Medley, ſoon after returned to their Colours.

It is ſaid that there was a Letter intercepted from the Prince of *Conde* to the King of *France*, wherein he gave him an account, *That upon a general Review of his Army, he found himſelf but in a ſorry condition, as having loſt the Flower of his Infantry, and the beſt part of his Horſe, and therefore did not think himſelf ſtrong enough to hazard a ſecond Encounter.* Which was agreeable to the Liſts of the Slain and Wounded on the *French* ſide. For not to reckon the Wounded, the Liſt of the Slain in the *French* Army, contained,

The Marqueſſes of *Chauvalan*,
De Clemerant,
De Bourbon, and

De Illiers.
Three Counts.
Two Cornets of the King's Guards.
Above forty Officers of the Guards of the King's Body.
Forty three Officers of the King's Regiment.
Fourscore Officers of the Queen's Guards.
Three Regiments totally ruined.
Seven hundred *Switzers* of the King's Life-Guard of Foot.
Nine Colonels.
Eight Lieutenant-Colonels and Majors.
One hundred sixty five Captains, besides inferiour Officers.

In the List of the Slain, on the side of the Confederates, were,

The Marquess of *Assentar.*
Major-General *Vane.*
The Sieur *de Villamaire.*
The Sieur *de Langerac.*
Five Colonels.
Four Lieutenant-Colonels.
Several Captains and inferiour Officers.

So that it was no wonder that the Prince of *Conde* acknowledged the ill plight of his Army, after such a slaughter of his best and stoutest Officers; a loss far more irreparable than ten fold the number of common Souldiers. So that had it not been for the Advantage which the *French* had at the beginning of the Fight, it is much to be questioned whether the Prince of *Conde* must not have been forced to have been the unfortunate Messenger himself of an absolute Defeat. Nor was the taking of the white Standard of *France* (which was afterwards with great Solemnity hung up in the Church of the *Carmelites* in *Brussels*, richly embroidered with Gold and Silver, with a Sun in the middle passing through the *Zodiac*, with this haughty Motto, *Nil obstabit*

ſtabit Eunti) a mean argument of the Confederates Victory. All which redounded to the eternal Honour of his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange*, and which was no more than General *Souches* himſelf confeſſed in his Letter to the States, in theſe, among other words:

"*I have endeavoured to diſcharge my Duty in attend-*
"*ing his Highneſs the Prince of* Orange, *during the Bloody*
"*and Famous Battle between the Confederate Armies and*
"*that of the* Moſt Chriſtian King; *the happy Iſſue of*
"*which has proved ſo much to the Glory of the Prince of*
"Orange, *who ſhewed upon that occaſion the Prudence of*
"*an Aged Captain, the Courage of a* Cæſar, *and the un-*
"*daunted Bravery of a* Marius. *All which, my Lords,*
"*I ſpeak without Flattery, which is contrary to my Na-*
"*ture.*

The next day after the Fight, his Highneſs marched by *Mons*, with his whole Army, and took up his head Quarters at St. *Gilaine*, where he was recruited with five *Dutch* Regiments, and the *Imperialiſts* removed to *Quevtraine*, where they lay ſtill without any conſiderable Action, till about the eleventh or twelfth of *September*.

In the mean time General *Rabenhaupt* undertook the Siege of *Graves*: Which, conſidering the Scituation of the place, the ſtrength of the Garriſon, the plenty of Proviſion and Ammunition with which it was provided, the furious Attacques of the Beſiegers, and the vigorous Reſiſtance within, rendered it one of the moſt memorable Sieges that have happened for many Years; and the more remarkable, for that it could not be taken, till his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange* was at leiſure to ſet his helping hand to its Reducement.

The Garriſon conſiſted of ninety one Companies of Foot, amounting in all to four thouſand Men, and nine Troops of Horſe: The Sieur *de St. Louis*, an ancient and experienced Souldier, commanded the Horſe; and the Marqueſs *de Chamilly*, a valiant and expert Captain, was Governour of the Town; wherein were found four

hundred and fifty Pieces of Canon, of which a hundred were mounted upon the Bulwarks; beſides an infinite quantity of Powder, Corn, Granado's and other Warlike Ammunition; for the *French* had made a Hoord in that place of all that they had brought away from their deſerted Conqueſts.

Before this Place, as being a great Annoiance to all the Neighbouring Parts, General *Rabenhaupt* ſate down with about twenty Regiments of Foot, and ſome Horſe, ſoon after reinforced with three Regiments of Foot and two hundred Horſe under the Command of D. *John de Pimentel*, from the Prince of *Curland*; and after that, with two Regiments of Horſe from the Elector of *Brandenburgh*, under the leading of Major-General *Spaen*; *Hundebeck* lodged himſelf behind the great Damm, on that ſide next the *Veſp*; as *Gulſteint* alſo did, on that ſide next *Overyſſel*: the *Brandenburgh* Horſe lay more toward the *Eaſt*, to prevent Relief from getting into the Town: and the General himſelf made his Approaches as far as the Caſtle of *Vegeſac*. And thus the City being ſurrounded on every ſide, the Siege was carried on with no leſs Violence by the Aſſailants, than vigorouſly Defended by thoſe within.

In the mean time his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange*, together with the *Imperialiſts*, lay quartered upon the Borders of *Haynault*, and being now well recovered from the diſorder of the late Battle, began to think of farther Action: To which purpoſe, when the great Convoy from *Bruſſels* was arrived, together with the *Spaniſh* Army, conſiſting of eight thouſand Foot, beſides Horſe and Dragoons, his Highneſs decamped with the whole Army, the twelfth of *September*, and croſſed the River *Haine* by *Tournay* and *Ath*, from thence deſigning for *Audenard*. In the mean time two Regiments of Foot, and two thouſand five hundred Horſe approaching neer to *Gaunt*, were ſent to break down the Bridges of *Deynſe* and *Harlebeke*, upon the River *Leye*, and ſo to return to the Army. The ſame evening the ſaid Regiments were put aboard ſeveral Barges, with all ſorts of Ammunition and Proviſions, together

gether with five hundred Pioners, and ſent away to *Oudenard*, being followed by a Body of two thouſand five hundred Horſe, which poſted themſelves that night before the Town, and ſhut up all the Paſſages to the Garriſon on that ſide. His Highneſs the Prince of *Orange*, and General *Souches* arrived at the ſame time, and took up their Quarters, the Prince in the Abbey of *Ename*, and the Count of *Souches* on the other ſide of the River at *Leupegem* and *Elare*; and the *Spaniards* under the Marqueſs of *Villa Hermoſa*, at *Beveren* and *Moregem*. There was in the Town four hundred *Germans*, ſix thouſand *Switzers*, one thouſand *French*, and four hundred Horſe, under the Command of the Sieur *de Roſquaire*. And now the Confederates having finiſhed their Approaches, were already Maſters of the Counterſcarp, when the Prince of *Conde* being decamped from *Beaumont*, began to approach with his whole Army, conſiſting of forty thouſand Men, with a reſolution to give the Confederates Battle, if he could not otherwiſe relieve the Town. Thereupon it was the Advice of his Highneſs, to make ready without delay, and meet the Enemy, while they were yet weary and tired with a long march. But this magnanimous Reſolution took no effect, by reaſon that General *Souches* was not to be ſeen all that day; ſo that the Army was forced to continue in their Trenches. In the mean time the *French* advanced on the other ſide toward the *Imperialiſts*. But the Count of *Souches*, inſtead of ranging his Men in order to a Battle, drew out of his Trenches, and croſſes the River in ſo much haſt, that he left ſome Pieces of Canon behind him, which his Highneſs had ſent him, and which his Highneſs was forced to recover not without ſome danger. Thereupon the Prince of *Conde*, having his way open, entered the Town with part of his Army. And certainly he might have had a great advantage to have cut off the Communication between the Confederates, had not a thick Fog, that fell of a ſudden, prevented his deſign.

His Highneſs therefore, conſidering the condition of Affairs, thought it not ſafe to hazard his Army any

longer in that place, and therefore marched after the *Imperialiſts* and *Spaniards*, whom he overtook within a League of *Oudenard*. There his Highneſs drew up his Army, while the Prince of *Conde* having paſſed with all his Forces through *Oudenard*, embatteled his Men at the foot of the Mountain of the *Trinity*, between the City and the Confederates. But in regard there was a narrow Paſs between both Armies, where ſix Men could hardly march a breaſt, which would of neceſſity diſorder and endanger the breaking of thoſe that made the firſt Aſſault; that was the obſtacle that prevented the Battle; while the Confederates were unwilling to begin the Conflict at ſuch a diſadvantage, and the Prince of *Conde* thought he had done enough to relieve the Town. Thereupon the Confederates, finding the *French* reſolved to keep their Poſt, drew off, and took the Road toward *Gaunt*, for the conveniency of Proviſion. But here General *Souches* gave his Highneſs another occaſion of Diſtaſte, for that inſtead of following the reſt of the Army, having the Reer-guard, he wheeled off a quite contrary way; ſo that his Highneſs was forced to ſend ſome of his own Men to ſecure his own Retreat.

In this Diſorder and Diſtraction, cauſed by the *Imperialiſts*, his Highneſs finding no more good to be done, reſolved to march back to *Graves*, where his Preſence would be more neceſſary, becauſe of the Siege, leaving Count *Waldeck* to Command the Army in his abſence, where he arrived the ninth of *October*, with ſixty Corners of Horſe. His Highneſs's Preſence gave new Courage to the Beſiegers. Nevertheleſs, ſuch was the ſtrenuous and reſolute Defence of the Beſieged, that notwithſtanding the daily Attaeques of the Aſſailants, and that they were reduced to drink Water for want of other Liquor, they held out till the twenty fifth of *October*; at what time *Chanilly* finding ſuch wide Breaches in the Fortifications, much more widened by the lucky blowing up of a Mine, that ſet fire to a great number of Granado's in the *Brugg-Port*, and made a large Breach in the *Covert-Way*, ſo that it would be impoſſible

poſſible for him to hold out againſt a general Storm, that was intended the next day; firſt, deſired a Ceſſation of Arms for three or four hours; and within that time, took an occaſion to beat a Parley. Upon which, Hoſtages being given on both ſides, and Commiſſioners ſent forth to Treat, the Surrender of the Town was at length agreed upon honourable Articles; and thus ended this Year's Campaign.

1675.

THe beginning of this Year began with the grateful Acknowledgments of the ſignal Services which his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange* had done them, in redeeming them from the Calamities and Miſeries which they had ſuffered under the Tyranny of a foreign Enemy. For which reaſons, they offered him the Sovereignty of the Dutchy of *Gueldrs* and County of *Zutphen*, under the Titles of Duke of *Gueldrs*, and Count of *Zutphen*. But his believing that his Acceptance of thoſe Dignities would but create Jealouſie and Miſtruſt in ſome, and others would infer from thence, that he only ſought to Aggrandize himſelf by War; therefore to convince the World of the ſincerity of his Intentions, he deemed it more proper to refuſe thoſe additional Honours; but being at the ſame time offered the Command of Governour-Hereditary of the ſame Province, he readily accepted of that, and after he had taken his Oath, made thoſe Alterations in the Government, as ſuited beſt to the Reformation of thoſe Diſorders which the Poſſeſſion of Lawleſs Enemies had introduced. No leſs applauded for ſetling the Civil, than managing the Military Concerns of his Country: which it was high time for him again to look after, and that with the ſooneſt, in regard of the continual Alarms of the King of *France*'s Reſolutions early to take the Field in Perſon, this Spring. To that purpoſe, he was continually preſent at all the Grand Conſultations for carrying on the Summer's War, the toil of which Deliberations laid him in his Bed for a time, under

the unfortunate Delay of the Small-Pox, which was the the more lamented in him, becauſe it had before proved ſo fatal to his Relations, in the Perſons of his Father, his Mother, and the Duke of *Glocester*; but by the Care and good Managment of an able Phyſician, and certain peculiar Remedies ſent him by the Elector of *Brandenburgh*, his Highneſs recovered, to the univerſal Joy of the *United Netherlands*.

And now being abroad again, he haſtened to the General Rendeſvouz at *Roſindael*; for the King of *France* being now upon his March for *Brabant*, there was a neceſſity for the Prince to attend his Motion: More eſpecially *Limburgh* being Beſieged by the Marqueſs of *Roebefort*, required ſpeedy Relief. To which purpoſe, his Highneſs removed with his Army from *Duffel*, and joyns the Dukes of *Lunenburgh* and *Lorrain* at *Gangelt*, with a Reſolution to raiſe the Siege. And it might have come to a Royal Battel between his Highneſs and the King of *France* himſelf, (for that the King, who then lay encamped near *Maeſtricht*, hearing of the Prince's March, re-paſſed the *Meuſe* and *Viſet*, to oppoſe his Deſign) but that the Town, not able to withſtand the numbers of the *French*, was forced to Surrender ſooner than was expected.

After the taking of *Limburgh*, the King of *France* encamped near *Tillemont*, waſting all the Country about *Lovain*, *Bruſſels* and *Malines*, and fain he would have been at *Lovain* itſelf, but that his Highneſs, together with the Duke of *Villa Hermoſa*, watched him ſo narrowly, that he would not venture to meddle with it. So that ſeeing there was no more good to be done, contented with his Atcheivement of *Limburgh*, he returned to *Paris*, leaving *Conde* to attend the Prince's Motions, as the Prince had attended upon him.

And indeed thoſe two wary Generals watched one another ſo well, that neither could get any advantage of the other. But *Conde* was ſoon after commanded into *Alſatia*, upon the loſs of *Turenne*. And now the Prince had to do with a new General, the Army being left to the Command of the Count *de Montmorency*: who,

who, though a Captain no leſs wary than his Predeceſſour, yet his Highneſs had this advantage of him, that he kept him from diſturbing the Leaguer before *Treves*, ſo that at length that City, after the fatal and utter Overthrow of Monſieur *Crequi*, fell into the hands of the *Imperialiſts*.

It may be wondered that his Highneſs and Monſieur *de Montmorency* ſhould lye ſo near together, almoſt within View one of another, and yet no more conſiderable Action paſs between them. But *Montmorency* well knew that *France* had already received two deep Wounds, by the loſs of her choiceſt General, and *Crequi*'s Army, and therefore was unwilling to hazard a third, that perhaps might prove more mortal: Which was the reaſon that he ſuffered *Binck* to Surrender to his Highneſs at Diſcretion; a Garriſon of three hundred and fifty Men, and a great quantity of Proviſions, almoſt in View of the Army: The Fortifications of which, his Highneſs afterwards cauſed to be undermined and blown up, to render it unſerviceable to the Enemy. But it appeared afterwards, that *Montmorency* had no Orders to give his Highneſs Battle; and therefore, though upon the approach of ten thouſand of the *French* Cavalry, as his Highneſs had reaſon to ſuſpect, with an intention to attacque his Rear-guard, he had drawn up his Army in a large Plain, where it was eaſie to have come to a fair and equal Encounter; the wary Marſhal would not advance, but retreated without making the leaſt Attempt; ſo that his Highneſs finding the time of the Year far ſpent, broke up his Army and returned to the *Hague*.

1676.

SO dreadful and ſo innumerable were the Miſeries and Calamities of War, that now for ſome Years together had harraſſed and depopulated the greateſt part of *Europe*, that ſeveral Princes began not only to Compaſſionate her Miſeries, but made it their Buſineſs to ſtudy the moſt proper means, and moſt probable, to put

a ſtop to the rapid Violence of inceſſant Misfortunes, under which the afflicted People daily languiſhed: However, little Progreſs could be made in ſo glorious a Work, and ſo beneficial for the Common Good of Chriſtendom; till at length his Majeſty of *Great Britain*, *Charles* the Second, having concluded a Peace with *Holland*, ſhewed himſelf no leſs zealous to extinguiſh the General Conflagration, and to procure an Univerſal Peace amongſt all the Chriſtian Princes, which *Europe* ſo much wanted. To which purpoſe, taking upon him the noble and high Office of a Mediator, there was nothing which he omitted, no Stone that he left unturned, to induce others to follow his Example. Many were the Obſtructions, and many the Delays of State Punctilios, that for ſome time retarded his Deſign: But ſuch was his Royal Care, and indefatigable Diligence in removing thoſe Obſtacles, and giving Satisfaction to the diſcording Intereſt, that finding no way well to refuſe the Mediation of ſo great a Monarch, upon whoſe Juſtice and Prudence they had no leſs reaſon to rely; all the contending Parties agreed to ſubmit to his Umpirage: And *Nimeghen* being the place agreed upon for the Treaty, thither the Plenipotentiaries began, toward the beginning of the Year, to repair from all parts, as to the general Rendeſvouz of Peace. So that War and Peace might ſeem to have vouchſafed each other now an Interview, and to be at a kind of Civil Striſe, which ſhould get the upper hand.

However, in regard all Parties ſtood for Honourable Terms, the Preparations for War were carried on with no leſs Vigour againſt the Spring, then if no ſuch thing as Peace had been in agitation. So that his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange* had Winter-Employment enough to get his Army ready againſt the Spring: For it was eaſie to ſee that there would need a powerful Oppoſition againſt the Common Enemy, ſo ſoon as the Seaſon ſerved. And indeed before the middle of *April*, the *French* began to form conſiderable Muſters under Marſhal *Crequi* near *Charleville*; and Marſhal *d'Huxieres*, having

having got together a Body of fifteen thouſand Men near *Courtray*, took the Field, with a deſign to have fallen into the Country of *Waes*; but being repulſed from thence, he forced his way into that of *Aloſt*, and put all the Inhabitants under Contribution, the *Spaniards* being too weak to reſiſt him.

This haſtened his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange*'s March from *Roſtendael* to joyn the Duke of *Villa Hermoſa*, which he did at *Cambron* the twenty ſixth of *April*. But before this, Marſhal *Crequi* had ſurrounded *Conde* with an Army of ſixteen thouſand Men: Upon the News of which, the King of *France* haſtned from *Paris*, followed ſoon after by the Duke of *Orleans*, and bringing with him a Re-inforcement of ten thouſand Men; the Town was ſo furiouſly battered and ſtormed on every ſide, that the Garriſon was forced to Surrender at Diſcretion, not able to hold out againſt ſo powerful an Aſſailant, notwithſtanding that his Highneſs was marched as far as *Granville* toward their Relief: But there underſtanding that the Town was taken, he made a Halt; and directing his March towards *Mons*, poſted himſelf not far from *Eſpinliers*, while the Duke of *Villa Hermoſa* lay at *Nexy*, and obſerved the Motion of the Enemy. The King of *France* having given Order for Repairing the Fortification of *Conde*, and put a Garriſon of three thouſand Men into the place, ordered the Duke of *Orleans*, with the Forces under Marſhal *Crequi*, which were about ſixteen thouſand Men, to Beſige *Boxchaine*, a ſmall, but ſtrong Town, ſeated between *Cambray* and *Valnciennes*, and which guarding the Communication between thoſe two places, for that reaſon was furniſhed with a good Garriſon, under the Command of a Govournour who had the Repute of a ſtout and able Souldier: Nevertheleſs, the Siege of this place was no ſuch difficult Task for the Duke with ſuch a Force, in regard he lay ſecured by the King himſelf in Perſon, who had undertaken with his main Body, to keep the *Dutch* and *Spaniſh* Armies all the while in play.

To

To this purpoſe the King encamped himſelf at *Seburgh*, between the *Hain* and the *Scheldt*, extending his Army as far as *Kieurain* and *Mouſſpont*, to prevent his Highneſs from getting near *Bouchain*. Withal, he ordred Marſhal *d' Humieres* to lye with nine thouſand Men upon all the Paſſes over the *Scheldt*, between *Conde* and St. *Amant*, to hinder any relief that way.

On the other ſide, his Highneſs, after he had muſtred his Army, which he found to be five and twenty thouſand Foot, and ſixteen thouſand Horſe, and received a Convoy of Proviſions from *Bruſſels*, which the Count of *Montal*, with five thouſand Horſe, being watched by the Marqueſs of *Montpoüillan*, in vain endeavoured to intercept, decamped from *Mons*, and marching without Beat of Drum or Sound of Trumpet, in two long Bodies, the *Spaniard* on the right, and the *Dutch* Army on the left, with the great Guns and Proviſion in the middle, encamped the next day between *Perwez* and *Baſtelles*, about three Miles from *Conde*. At the ſame time his Highneſs ſent the Prince of *Vandemont* with a thouſand Foot and three thouſand Horſe, to ſecure the Paſſage over the *Scheldt* near *Conde*, and withal, commanded the Duke of *Holſtein* to paſs by *Mons* with fifteen hundred Horſe, and two Regiments of Infantry, to poſt himſelf near *Kieurain*, on purpoſe to amuſe the French, and make them believe, that the whole Army was upon their march on that ſide, while he might be thought to lead the Vanguard.

Upon this, the King apprehending leſt the Enemy ſhould find a paſſage on the *Scheldt*-ſide, to raiſe the Siege of *Bouchain*, decamped from *Seburgh* and *Kieurain*, and paſſing the *Scheldt* near the Abbey of *Eſnam*, encamped his Army in view of *Valenciennes*, where Marſhal *d' Humieres* alſo joyned him after he had quitted his Poſt upon the *Scheldt*.

In the mean time his Highneſs, having intelligence that the *French* deſigned to poſſeſs themſelves of a Hill, that lay near to *Valenciennes*, paſſed the *Scheldt* about a League below *Conde*, marched with all haſte on the ſide of *Valenciennes*, and having made himſelf Maſter of the Hill,

Hill, by Ten of the Clock in the Morning, immediately ranged his whole Army in Battel-array, which the King of *France* perceiving did the like. The *French* had the Wood of St. *Amant* upon their Left-Wing; and the Confederates upon their Right-Wing the Wood of *Vicogne*, where they poſted Three Thouſand Foot to ſecure themſelves on that ſide. And now, there being nothing but a large Plain between both Armies, it was generally expected that a Battel would have enſued. In order to which his Highneſs ſhewed himſelf at the Head of every Regiment, enlivening to that degree the Courage of the Souldiery, that they threw up their Caps, and with loud Acclamations teſtified their eager deſires to engage the Enemy. But tho' both Armies had ſtood thus drawn up all that Evening and the next day, the *French* forbore to advance; ſo that the Prince of *Orange* having encamped his Army to avoid ſurprizes, was reſolved himſelf the next day to have attacked the King, while a Detachment of Twelve Thouſand Men endeavoured to relieve the Town; but underſtanding in the mean time that the Place was taken, he alter'd his reſolution. Nevertheleſs both Armies ſtill lay in view one of another near *Valenciennes*, nor would his Highneſs ſtir, till the King of *France* after he had wrote to *Paris* the great News of his Conqueſt of *Bouchain*, firſt decamped, leaving to the Prince the Honor to have dared the whole Power and Fortune of *France*; ſo that if the Confederates loſt a ſmall Town, the *French* loſt the greater Honor of accepting ſo brave a Challenge.

No ſooner was the King of *France* decamped, but his Highneſs followed him at the heels; and underſtanding by his Quartering between *Gramont* and *Nivove*, that the King's deſign was to fall into the Province of *Aloſt*; his Highneſs ſent *Antonio d' Agurta* with a conſiderable number of Horſe and Dragoons to ſecure all the Paſſes and Bridges upon the River *Dender*, which they did in view of the *French*; by which means his Highneſs having ſecured thoſe Parts, the King returned back to *Kievrain*, which he ordered likewiſe to be fortified, as if he had had a deſign upon *Valenciennes*. Upon which the

the Prince brought his Army to *Lombeek* and *Wambeek* not far from *Bruſſels* to attend the King's motion. In which poſture both Armies lay till the beginning of *July* without any conſiderable Action. But then the King of *France* returning for *Paris*, after he had given the Command of his Army in the *Spaniſh Netherlands* to Marſhal *Schombergh*, His Highneſs the Prince of *Orange* ſate down before *Maeſtricht*. On the other ſide, *Schombergh* by way of diverſion ſends away the Marſhal *d' Humiers*, with Fifteen Thouſand Men to lay Siege to *Aire*, a City ſeated in the Province of *Artoys*, and very ſtrong, as being environ'd on three ſides with a deep Marſh. So that there was no way but one to come at it, which was defended by a ſtrong Fort, fortified with no leſs than five Baſtions and a Mote. This Fort *d' Humiers* eaſily made himſelf Maſter of, the Commander within, not having Men ſufficient to oppoſe the *French* Numbers; after which he ply'd the Town ſo thick with his Bombs and Granado's, that the Houſes taking fire, and the Townſmen growing impatient of their Loſſes, beat a Parley before the Governor knew of it, and conſtrained him to Surrender the Town, upon ſuch Articles as they had conſented to; which were ſo much the more to their advantage, in regard that they heard the Duke of *Villa Hermoſa*, was upon his March to raiſe the Siege.

All this while the Prince of *Orange* had lain before *Maeſtricht*, which was begirt on every ſide, as well by his own, as the Confederate Forces of the Prince of *Oſnaburgh*, and ſome few Troops of the Elector of *Brandenburgh* and Duke of *Newburgh*, &c. To every one of which when His Highneſs had aſſigned their Quarters, he took up his own at *Smeermaes* on *Raremond*-ſide. Among the reſt, the *Engliſh* under three Colonels, *Fenwick*, *Widdrington* and *Ashley*, to the number of Two Thouſand Six Hundred Men, beſides Volunteers and Reformed Officers, preſented a Petition to his Highneſs, wherein they beſought him, *That all of their Nation might be aſſigned a particular Quarter, and be commanded apart, that if they behaved themſelves like Men, they might have*

have the Honour due to their Atchievements; but if ill that they might bear alone the Ignominy of their Cowardize; there being no reaſon why they ſhould ſuffer for the miſcarriage of Others. This Petition was readily granted by his *Highneſs*, who thereupon ordered the *Engliſh* a ſeparate Poſt, over againſt his own Regiment of Guards, on that ſide next *Bois le Duke* Gate, under the command of Colonel *Fenwick*, as being the eldeſt Colonel; nor were they worſe than their words, as appeared by many deſperate Attacks, wherein they ſignalized themſelves with more than uſual Valour, during the Siege.

And indeed never was any Siege carried on againſt a ſtout Defence with more Vigor and Reſolution, his *Highneſs* continually animating the Soldiers by his Preſence, and teaching them contempt of danger by expoſing his own Perſon to that degree, that he received one day a ſlight wound in his Arm, at what time the beſieged thinking to have ruined his Works, were repulſed by the Regiment then upon the Guard. So that if the Succeſs of the Siege had depended upon the indefatigable diligence, the undaunted courage and more than credible vigilancy of the Prince, his *Highneſs* could not have failed of ſucceſs in his Enterprize. But there were two reaſons wherefore his *Highneſs* could not make himſelf Maſter of the Town ſo ſoon as otherwiſe he might have done; for firſt the River was grown ſo ſhallow, that he was forced to ſtay ſome days for his great Guns from *Ruremond* for want of Water. In the next place, the Forces which he expected from the Biſhop of *Munſter* and Dukes of *Lunenburgh*, never came to his aſſiſtance. Marſhal *Schomberg* therefore, having received poſitive Orders to relieve the Place, and being now advanced to that purpoſe as far as *Tongres*, his *Highneſs* called a Council of War, to conſider what was to be done, as the ſtate of his Affairs ſtood. At what time, after they had debated the condition of the Army, which was not above four and twenty thouſand at the firſt opening of the Trenches, now much leſſened, but more wearied and tired out by continual labour and watching; that it would be impoſſible ſo to ſtop up the Paſſages and Avenues

nues to the Town, on the *Wyck*-ſide, but that the *French* would put relief into the place, do what they could, beſides that it was impoſſible for the Horſe to ſubſiſt in the Trenches for want of Forage, They concluded to raiſe the Siege. To which purpoſe, his *Highneſs* order'd the Horſe to joyn Count *Waldeck*, and ſent away his great Guns, Proviſion and Ammunition, with his ſick and wounded Men, by Water to *Ruremond*, ſtanding himſelf with his Foot drawn up in Battel-array, till the Boats were out of danger, and then marched to *Loenaken*, where he encamped with his whole Army; to try whether the *French* would yet in the heat of their ſucceſs, hazard the Fortune of a Battel. But the Marſhal, well ſatisfied with his having relieved the Town, avoided any farther Action; ſo that his *Highneſs* drew off from *Loenaken*, and marched to St. *Tron*; where he gave leave to the three *Engliſh* Regiments and nine of the *Dutch*, who had moſt ſuffered during the Siege, to return into *Holland* and recruit their Loſſes.

From thence his *Highneſs* directed his March toward *Janche* and *Pertuiſe*, the Duke of *Villa Hermoſa* leading the Van, the Duke of *Oſnabrugh* the Main Battel, and his *Highneſs* the Rear-guard. Thereupon *Schombergh* followed them as far as *Warem*, thinking to have done ſome execution upon their Rear; upon which, the Confederates drew up upon a Riſing Ground between *Janche* and *Pertuiſe*, believing that at length the *French* were coming on to give them Battel. But being deceived in their hopes, his *Highneſs* marched back to *Warem*; where now deeming the *Campaign* to be at an end for this Year, he left the Army under the Command of Count *Waldeck*, and returned for *Holland*. Where firſt in the *General Aſſembly* of the *States*, he gave an Account of the Summer's Expedition, ſo much to their Lordſhip's ſatisfaction, that the Preſident ſolemnly congratulated his ſafe return, and returned him thanks of the whole Aſſembly for the great Pains and Toyl which he had undergone for the good of the Republic; and afterwards repeating the ſame Account in the Aſſembly of the *States of Holland*, the Penſioner *Fagel* made him new

new returns of Thanks for expoſing his Perſon to ſo many Hazards and Dangers for Preſervation of the Provinces, for which they could not but acknowledge themſelves eternally obliged to his Care and Conduct.

1677.

THE Campaign being thus ended, all Men were now in great hopes of Peace: and they who were moſt deſirous of it, were willing to draw Reaſons for the neceſſity of a General Compoſure, from the Condition of the Potentates of *Europe* at that time, whom they concluded to be all alike, ſo wearied and exhauſted with the continual Depredations and Expences of a long War, that they would be readily inclined to take Breath. But beſides that the ſecret Springs that move the bulky Machines of Kingdoms and States, never diſcover themſelves without-ſide the Frame, we generally find that it is more eaſie to kindle than to quench a Conflagration, and that Swords once drawn by ſeveral particular Intereſts, beſides the general Motive, are not ſo ſoon ſheath'd again. It required more than one Winter to regulate all the Preliminaries of the Grand Aſſembly at *Nimmeghen*. So that notwithſtanding all the ſerious pains which his Majeſty of *Great Britain* took, there was little hopes of Peace, before the next Spring. At what time the Loſers would be forced to ſtir, and the Winners confiding in Fortunes favours, would be ſure not to lye Idle.

Nor were theſe Conjectures in vain: for no ſooner was the New Year begun, tho' it were the depth of Winter, but the *French* Forces were upon their March towards the *Spaniſh Netherlands*; and in a ſhort time all the important Places round about *Valenciennes*, *Cambray*, and *St. Omers*, were ſo thronged with the *French* Troops, that thoſe three Cities were in a manner blokt up at a diſtance. Nor were the *French* afraid to give it out, that they would be Maſters of two, if not more Places of Importance, before their Enemies could be in a condition to take the Field.

And here it was eaſie to obſerve the great advantage, that

that Men who being all under the Command of one Chieftain, are governed by his ſingle and immediate Orders, have over thoſe who acting in Confederacy, meet with a thouſand delays of differing Counſels, temper of Nations, negligence or impoveriſhed Alliance, while the ſingle Perſon that has Power, has nothing to impede his Determinations, but his own Will.

The King of *France*, therefore having once fixed his Reſolutions, which were to add to his Conqueſts in the *Spaniſh Netherlands*, haſtened thither all his Forces, as to their Center, with ſo much ſpeed, that by the firſt of *March* he had environ'd *Valenciennes* with an Army of between Fifty and Sixty Thouſand Men, under the Command of the Duke of *Luxemburgh*, and the Count of *Montal*, and four days after arrived himſelf in perſon at the Camp.

Valenciennes is a large and fair City, founded, as they ſay, by the Emperor *Valentinian*, for the ſake of the Air, and the fertility of the Soil. It is ſeated in the Province of *Hainault* upon the *Schelde*, which runs through it, together with the little River *Rouel*, which gives it the advantage of drowning the Country upon one ſide of it: ſo well fortified beſides, that formerly it was thought impregnable.

Within the City was a Garriſon of two thouſand Foot, *Spaniards*, *Walloons* and *Italians*, with about a thouſand Horſe and Dragoons, under the Command of the Marqueſs of *Resburgh*, Brother to the Prince of *Eſpinoy*.

The King of *France* being arrived at the Camp, viſited the ſeveral Poſts, viewed the City, and gave Orders where to open the Trenches, and raiſe the Batteries; which were brought to that perfection in a few days, that the *French* were advanced to the *Glacis* or ſlooping of the Counterſcarp of a Crown'd Horn-work, which was one of the main Defences of the City. But then the King, unwilling to loſe time in a methodical way of taking the Out-works, gave Orders to ſtorm the Horn-work in four ſeveral Places at once, in the Morning by eight of the Clock; and to facilitate the Aſſault, commanded that the beſieged ſhould be kept walking all the Night

Night before by flinging Bombs, Granado's and Fire-Pots into the Town; which had the deſired effect. For the next Morning the beſieged being tired out with the Night's toyl were gone to their Repoſe, leaving very few to guard the Works. So that the Aſſailants carried all before them, won the Counterſcarp and Horn-work, and turned the great Guns upon the Town; which put the beſieged into ſuch a terror, that they ſurrendred immediately at diſcretion, and the *French* became Maſters of the Town, almoſt before they were aware, with very little loſs, and none of any Quality, except the Count of *Bourlemont*. At the ſame time the King perceiving the *French* and *Swiſs* Colours upon the Ramparts, gallopp'd up toward the Town, and gave ſtrict Command to forbear pillaging or doing any other injury to the Inhabitants. But another chief reaſon that the City was ſo ſuddenly taken was this, that the Marqueſs of *Risburgh* was wounded at the beginning of the Siege, ſo that he was forced to keep his Bed. Which was the reaſon that the King gave him his Liberty to go to *Bruſſels*, there to make his Juſtification. The reſt, to the number of between two and three Thouſand, were all made Priſoners of War.

The King having thus won *Valenciennes*, immediately ſate down before *Cambray*, with one part of his Army, commanded by the Duke of *Luxemburgh*, and begirt St. *Omers* with the other part, under the leading of Marſhal *d' Humieres*.

Cambray is one of the moſt ancient Cities of the *Low-Countries*, founded in the time of *Servius Hoſtilius*, but the Caſtle was built by *Charles* the Fifth: So that the *Spaniards* have always had a very great care to preſerve it. This was the firſt Place that *Cludoreus*, King of *France*, conquer'd after the loſs of Three and fifty thouſand Men on both ſides. It is a Town of great Trade for fine Linnen Cloath; and had been in the *Spaniards* hands above Fourſcore Years. There was in it a good Garriſon of One thouſand four hundred Horſe, and four Regiments of Foot, beſides two Tertias of Veteran *Spaniards*, under the Command of *Don Pedro de Zava-*

La the Governor. Thus both sides prepared for Defence and Offence; but the Church was a Pile of such Veneration, that the *Chanons* coming forth of the Town, made their Address to the King, and besought him not to level any Shot against their Cathedral. Which being readily condescended to, no sooner were the Lines of Circumvallation and Countervallation finished, but the King gave order for the storming two Half-Moons on the Castle-side; of which the numerous *French* having soon made themselves the Masters, presently began to undermine the Ramparts. Which put the besieged into such a Consternation, that they beat a Parley, and soon after Surrendred the Town, upon Honourable Articles; the Churchmen making their Capitulations apart.

But though the Town were thus taken the Castle still held out; whither the Governour, taking the advantage of the Cessation of Arms, had in the mean time given order for the Canon, and such Ammunition as he thought necessary, to be removed. He also caused all the Horses belonging to the Cavalry to be killed, excepting ten for every Troop, and so retreated to the Castle with all his Souldiers, before the *French* had notice of it, resolving the *French* should pay dearer for the Citadel, than they had done for the Town. So that the King was forced as it were to lay two Sieges to one Place. Nor was the Castle so easily nor so suddenly taken as the Town. For while the King was about to make his approaches with his wonted speed, he was constrained to stop for some time, in regard that not only the *French* Pioneers were driven from their Works by the besieged, in a Salley which they made to prevent their approaches, at what time the Count *d' Auvergne* was wounded in the Head, and the Commissary of the *French* Artillery killed with a Cannon-Bullet; but also, for that the King, upon advice that the Prince of *Orange* was upon his march to the Relief of *St. Omers*, was constrained to send away the Duke of *Luxemburgh* with a great part of his Army to reinforce his Brother the Duke of *Orleance*, who then lay before the Town, and had already begun his Batteries.

For

For the News of the King of *France*'s great Succeſſes at *Valenciennes* and *Cambray*, and his Progreſs at St. *Omers* had ſo alarum'd all the *Netherlands*, that his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange* was compelled to take the Field, perhaps ſooner than he intended, conſidering the greatneſs and danger of the Enterprize which required ſo much ſpeed before the reſt of the Allies could be ready. To that purpoſe, having Rendevouz'd his Army near *Ypre*, conſiſting chiefly of the *Holland* Forces, and ſome few Troops drawn out of the *Spaniſh* Garriſons, he ſet forward upon the ſeventh of *April*, and the ninth arrived at St. *Mary Capelle*, when he underſtood that the Duke of *Orleance* had drawn off the greateſt part of his Army, (leaving only ſome few Regiments for the Guard of his Trenches, and to keep the Town as it were blockt up) and was encamped directly in the Road to St *Omers*. However, the Prince reſolved to continue his march, which was very troubleſome, by reaſon of the many Lanes in his way, ſo that he could not advance any farther all the next day, than to a ſmall River called *Pent*, on the other ſide of which he perceived the Enemy. Thereupon he conſulted his Guides, and ſuch as pretended very well to know the Country, who all aſſured him, that there was no other paſſage to *Bacq*, which was adjudged the only Place by which relief might be put into St. *Omers*. And that was the reaſon that he reſolved to paſs the River and attacque the Enemy. To which purpoſe, he cauſed new Bridges to be made, and the old ones, which the Enemy had broken, to be repaired in the Night-time, and by break of day croſſed the River with that ſpeed, that his whole Army was got over before the *French* perceived it. But then nothing ſo much perplexed the Prince, as to find there was yet another River, between the Enemy and him, contrary to what his Guides had informed him. So that all his care was how to paſs the ſecond River in view of the Enemy ſo nigh at hand, and all drawn up ready to give battel. However, he made himſelf Maſter of the Abbey of *Pienes*, on the other ſide of the River, and lodged his own Regiment of Dragoons therein, thinking

to have paſſed the River on the right-hand. But the ground was ſo intercut with Dikes and Hedges on that ſide, that he was diſappointed that way. Nevertheleſs, the Enemy having received a reinforcement of fifteen thouſand Men, gave him occaſion themſelves to come to blows with them, by quitting an advantageons Poſt to attack the Abbey; where the Dragoons made a ſtout and long reſiſtance, and at length being reinforced with ſome Battalions of Foot, conſtrained the Enemy to retreat. After which the Prince drew off his Dragoons, and ſet fire to the Abbey, to prevent the *French* from taking poſſeſſion of it. In the mean time the *French* wheeled off their Right-Wing, to charge in Flank the Princes Left-Wing, which lay ſecured by ſeveral Hedges, where were poſted two Battalions of Foot. At what time the Prince obſerving the Enemy to be reinforced on that ſide with freſh numbers, ſent three Battalions more to the aſſiſtance of his own, and to guard the Plain behind the Hedges. But the two firſt Regiments ſhamefully quitted their Poſt, ſo ſoon as the Enemy drew near, ſo that the other three Regiments not having time to put themſelves in a poſture of defence, when they ſaw the firſt Regiments fly, they likewiſe gave ground, and diſordered the Squadrons that lay there ready to relieve them. Upon which the Enemies Cavalry advancing, and being ſeconded by their Foot, put the Prince's Horſe alſo to a retreat, though not far. For being immediately rally'd again, they fell on with freſh courage, and in their turn repelled the French: but then the French Infantry advancing, made themſelves Maſters of the Hedges where the Prince's Men were poſted before; ſo that his Highneſs perceiving, that if his Men were charged both in Flank and Front at one time, they could not be able to make any long reſiſtance againſt an Army ſtill relieved with freſh ſupplies, drew off his Forces in good order, repaſſed the River and retreated to *Steenword*, and thence to *Poperdingue*, the Enemy having had ſuch bad entertainment from the Prince's Right-Wing, commanded by Count *Waldeck*, that they had no deſire to purſue: and this was the Iſſue of the Battel of *Caſſel*.

But

But certain it is, that the French were much more numerous, than they were thought to have been, as having received the night before the Fight, a great reinforcement from the Army before *Cambray*; ſo that by the report of the French Priſoners, the Prince that day withſtood no leſs than thirty nine Battalions of Foot, and a hundred Squadrons of Horſe. And as certain it is, that though the loſs on the Prince's ſide were very conſiderable, yet that ſeveral Squadrons and Battalions of the French were very courſly handled. Inſomuch that they who ſpeak moſt impartially and modeſtly of the Fight, ſcruple not to ſay, that if the Prince's Left-Wing had Fought with equal Courage to the Right, and Main Battel, the French would have loſt much more than they did. But it ſeems there were in that Wing a new raiſed Regiment of raw Souldiers, who were the occaſion that his Highneſs did not reap that Honor by this Battel which his Proweſs and his Conduct deſerved. For as to himſelf, all ſides agree, that he performed whatever could be expected from a Prudent, Couragious and Daring Leader. It is ſaid of him, that in the Main Battel, which he commanded in Perſon, he did Wonders, leading on his Men at the Head of his Troops to the charge, encouraging them both by his Exhortations and Example, and hazarding himſelf to that degree in the midſt of the Enemy, that he received no leſs than two Musket-ſhots in his Armor. Of all which the States-General were ſo ſenſible, that in anſwer to his Letter, wherein his Highneſs gave them an account of what had paſſed, they wrote him another, wherein they returned him their unfeigned thanks for the great Care and indefatigable Pains which he took for the Service of his Country, not ſparing his own Perſon, of which they beſought him to be more tender for the future, conſidering how important the preſervation of his Highneſs was to the preſervation of his Country. Which if any ſiniſter accident ſhould happen to his Perſon, it was to be feared would relaps again into its former Miſery and Confuſion.

Upon the retreat of his Highneſs, the King of *France* carried on the Siege of the Citadel of *Cambray* with all the

the vigour imaginable: and it fell out unluckily for the beſieged, that one of the French Bombs lighting into one of the Magazines where they kept their Granado's and other Warlike Ammunition, ſet the whole on fire. Nevertheleſs, they failed not to make a ſtout defence, and recompenſed their loſs in ſome meaſure with the death of the Marqueſs of *Renel*, one of the King's Lieutenant-Generals, killed with a Cannon-ſhot from the Caſtle. But at length the French having made ſeveral breaches in their Works, and the Governour himſelf being wounded; they were forced to ſubmit to the continual Attacks of a numerous Enemy, and to ſurrender upon honourable Articles.

But as for the Duke of *Orleans*, notwithſtanding his Victory, he was ſo afraid, leſt the Prince of *Orange* ſhould make a ſecond Attempt to relieve St *Omers*, that he durſt not quit the Field, but ſtood upon his Guard for eight days together before he returned to the Leaguer. But underſtanding that his Highneſs had paſſed the Canal of *Gaunt* with his Force, he ſat down a ſecond time before the Town with his whole Army, and after a vigorous reſiſtance that coſt him the loſs of ſeveral of his beſt Officers, at length conſtrained the beſieged, tho' much againſt the will of the Inhabitants, to ſurrender upon Articles.

After the taking of theſe Towns, the heat of the French fury was over, and they who were ſo early to offend others were contented all the reſt of the Summer to defend themſelves, dodging and hovering at the heels of the Enemy, but not daring tho' often challenged to adventure the hazard of a pitcht Field.

For by this time on the one ſide the Prince of *Orange* had recruited his own Army, and the ſeveral Auxiliary ſupplies ſent from the Biſhops of *Munſter* and *Oſnabrugh*, the Dukes of *Zell* and *Wolfenbattel*, re-enforced with ten thouſand Horſe and Foot under the Duke of *Villa Hermoſa* being come up to the Rendezvouz near *Aloſt*, they all joyned together, and made a Formidable Body. On the other ſide the Duke of *Lorrain* being come to *Pont a Mouſſon* with a powerful Army

my threatned the Invaſion of *Champaigne*. Upon which the King of *France* returned to *Paris*, leaving *Crequi* to oppoſe the Duke of *Lorrain*; and *Luxemburgh* to obſerve the motions of the Prince of *Orange*. Who upon the twenty third of *July*, diſlodging with his whole Army (for the Confederates had all ſubmitted to his Conduct, though the Duke of *Villa Hermoſa* and the Biſhop of *Oſnaburgh* were both there in perſon) ſet forward from *Aloſt*, to attack the *French* then lying under the Walls of *Ath*. But the Duke of *Luxemburgh* was ſo advantageouſly poſted before two ſmall Rivers, that his Highneſs did not think it convenient to force him in his Faſtneſſes. However, he formed a volant Camp of between eight and nine thouſand men, to prevent the *French* from haraſſing *Flanders* on that ſide next *Brughes* and *Oſtend*; and finding he could not draw the Duke of *Luxemburgh* to a Battle, he directed his march for *Charleroy*, and in an inſtant beleaguered the Town.

Charleroy is a very regular Fortification, begun by the Marqueſs of *Caſtel Rodrigo*, which the *Spaniards* had demoliſhed in the year 1667. but the *French* repaired it afterwards, and made it one of the ſtrongeſt Holds in all thoſe parts. The Garriſon conſiſted of between four and five thouſand men under the command of the Count of *Montal*, a Souldier of great Reputation: and the *French* miſtruſting that his Highneſs had a deſign upon the Town, had furniſhed it with all manner of Ammunition and Proviſion, and ſuch a number of great Guns, that the Governour had ſent away a good part of them, together with the Women and Children before the Place was inveſted.

So ſoon as the Duke of *Luxemburgh* had Intelligence that his Highneſs was ſate down before the City, he drained all the Garriſons of the *French* Conqueſts, and having made up a Body of Forty thouſand men, decamped from *Ath*, and knowing that the Confederates muſt have all their Forrage from the Country that lies beyond the *Sambre*, he poſted himſelf on the other ſide of the River ſo advantageouſly, having a Wood upon his right Wing, and a River before him, that there was

no

no forcing his Trenches. Which he did not so much to raise the Siege, as to weary the Besiegers, who he knew could not subsist without Forrage. All which his Highness considering, and withal that if any Disaster should happen by his assailing the *French*, in regard the Garrison of *Charleroy* would not fail to seize upon all the Fords and Passages of the *Sambre*, contrary to the opinion of the *Spanish* Generals, he drew off his Army, and retired to *Sombreff*: not minding so much the Murmurs of the *Spaniards* as the preservation of his Army, wherein consisted the safety of his Country; though no man living, on this side rashness, more daring than he, when he saw there was any likelihood of prevailing.

His Highness thus observing that the *French* had no other design but to keep him from laying Siege to any considerable place; and that he could not draw them to a fair Battle, without which there was no great advantage to be gained upon them, drew his Army near to *Brussels*, and there leaving it under the Command of Count *Waldeck*, returned to the *Hague*, accompanied by the Earl of *Offory*, *Don Carlos*, the Duke of *Albemarle*, and several others. Where after he had given the States General an Account of the Campaign, and the reasons that obliged him to quit the Siege of *Charleroy*, and to decline giving Battle to an Enemy so strongly posted, their Lordships returned him thanks a second time for his wary and prudent Conduct, and besought the continuance of his Care and Zeal for the common Interest.

Nor was it long after the return of his Highness, before the occasion was made publick that brought those *English* Nobility to the Prince's Court. For at a meeting of the States General on purpose assembled, he gave them to understand, that his Uncle, his Majesty of *Great Britain*, *Charles* the Second, had earnestly invited him into *England*, in hopes that his presence in those parts would contribute very much to the Peace then in Negotiation, and be otherwise advantageous to the States: offering them withal whatever other Service he could do them for the publick good. His Highness took

took his leave of the States, and of all the reſt of the Colledges, upon the ſeventeenth of *October*, and coming to *Helverſluys*, attended by the Earl of *Oſſory*, Mr. *Odyck*, the Count of *Naſſau* and ſeveral others which made up a numerous and Princely Train, there took ſhipping in one of the King's Yachts; of which there were four, together with three Men of War that lay ready to attend him, while Admiral *Evertſen* was ordered to wait upon him with ſeveral of the *Dutch* Ships that lay at the *Texel*, and landed the nineteenth by ten a Clock in the Morning at *Harwich*; where the Duke of *Albemarle* and the Maſter of the Ceremonies being ready to receive him in his Majeſties Coaches, conducted him that Evening to *Ipſwich*, where he was received by his Majeſty himſelf, and his Royal Highneſs the Duke of *York*, with all the Teſtimonies of kindneſs and affection imaginable. Upon the twenty third the Prince with his Majeſty and his Royal Highneſs arrived at *White-Hall*, where the Lodgings appertaining to his Royal Highneſs, were prepared for his reception; his Royal Highneſs retiring to St. *James's*. Upon the Sunday following, the accuſtomed Solemnities being paid to the Birth-day of his Royal Highneſs, the Princeſs *Mary*, Eldeſt Daughter to the moſt Illuſtrious Duke of *York*, his Majeſties only Brother, firſt appeared in publick, no leſs ſplendid in Magnificence of Habit, than charming with the Luſter of her Native Beauty. And becauſe the Lord Mayor's day was then approaching, the Lord Mayor, attended by the Aldermen and Sheriffs of *London*, went to *White-Hall* not only to welcome his Highneſs into *England*, but to invite him, together with the King and his Royal Highneſs, to the Solemnity of their Feaſt: Which was then deſigned to be more than uſually Magnificent, in regard it was then paſt report, that his Majeſty of *Great Britain* had caſt his Eye upon the moſt Heroick Prince of *Orange*, as the fitteſt Match among all the Princes of *Europe*, for his moſt Illuſtrious Neice, the Preſumptive Heireſs of three Great Kingdoms: and for that the City was then to entertain all the Supream Grandeur and Glory of the *Britiſh* Monarchy.

What yet was only Report, ſoon after confirmed by the King himſelf, who coming into Council, upon the firſt of *November* there declared his deſign of Marrying to the Prince of *Orange*, the Princeſs *Mary*, Eldeſt Daughter to the Duke of *York*, who at the ſame inſtant appearing in Council, teſtified as well his conſent to the Match, as the great affection which he bare the Prince, whoſe Merits were ſo highly deſerving. Both his Majeſty and his Royal Highneſs at the ſame time declaring that they hoped the Match would tend to the Conſummation of that Peace, of which his Majeſty was reſolv'd to labour the Accompliſhment as far as the Intereſts of his Kindoms would permit. Upon which the whole Council went in a Body to complement the Princeſs, and then the Prince himſelf; as did alſo after them the reſt of the Nobility of the Kingdom; beſides that the News being ſpread into the City, ſet the Bells a ringing, and kindled Bonfires in all the High-ſtreets of the City, in teſtimony of publick joy and ſatisfaction.

Of the concluſion of this Match, his Highneſs forthwith gave notice by a particular Expreſs, of which this was the purport. *That in conſideration they had teſtified their earneſt wiſhes to ſee him married, after often he had well weighed the Reaſons which induced him to it, in conformity to their deſires, and the good of their State, he thought he could not do better, than to make his Addreſſes to the Princeſs* Mary, *Eldeſt Daughter to the Duke of* York; *that he had requeſted her in Marriage both of his Majeſty of* Great Britain, *and his Royal Highneſs her Father, who had condeſcended to his Propoſal; and therefore deemed it but juſt to give them notice of it, expecting in return their ſpeedy Approbation, that he might the ſooner haſten again to their Service.*

Upon this, the States General aſſembled together, and after they had duely weighed the Reaſons of State upon which the Match was grounded, and the fair Advantages accruing from it, tending to a confirmation of the ſtrict Union between his Majeſty of *Great Britain* and the States of the *United Provinces*, the Eſtabliſhment of the ancient Houſe of *Orange*, and ſo fairly promiſing

miſing a concluſion of the ſo-long-wiſhed-for Peace; after they had conſidered all this, and the Choice his Highneſs had made of a Princeſs, who beſides her innate unparallel'd Goodneſs, was endued with all the Vertues deſirable in Sacred Wedlock, by a publick Edict teſtified their Approbation in all the Terms of Satisfaction that words could expreſs; declaring alſo their high Eſteem of ſo great an Alliance, and proteſting their real and ſincere Reſolutions to obſerve it to the utmoſt of their Powers.

This Anſwer and Approbation arriving at *London* the 14th of *November*, which fell out to be his Highneſs's Birth-day, the Marriage was ſolemnized the ſame day at eleven a clock at night, and that with ſo little noiſe, that the People knew nothing of it till the next morning. The Biſhop of *London* performed the Ceremony, who when he came to the uſual Queſtion, *Who gives this Lady?* His Majeſty anſwered in Perſon, *I do.* So that the next day, being the Fifth of *November*, was a double Holy-day among the People, not only upon the uſual occaſion, but to teſtifie their preſent joy for the Concluſion of ſo Glorious a Match; from whence they promiſed themſelves ſo much of future Happineſs.

However, in the midſt of all theſe Nuptial Joys and Careſſes, the Prince well knowing how neceſſary his Preſence was in *Holland*, made all the haſte he could to return. So that he departed from *London* the 29th of *November*, together with his Princeſs, and landed at *Ter Heyde*, from whence they went to *Hounſlerdyke*, where they ſtaid till they made their Publick Entry into the *Hague*. Which they did in a few days after with a more than ordinary Magnificence. For beſides that the twelve Companies of the Burghers were in Arms drawn up under their diſtinct Enſigns, the Bridge of the *Hague* was adorned with green Garlands, under which were written theſe Words:

UXORI ET BATAVIS VIVAT NASSOVIUS HECTOR AURIACO ET PATRIÆ VIVAT BRITANNICA PRINCEPS.

Having passed the Bridge, they were met by four and twenty young Virgins, that walked two by two on each side their Highnesses Coach, singing and strewing green Herbs all the way. When their Highnesses came before the Town-House, they past through a Triumphal Arch adorned with Foliage, and *Grotesco* Work, with the Arms of both their Highnesses, and over them two Hands clasp'd together, with this Motto:

AURIACI HIS THALAMIS BATAVIS DOS REGIA PAX EST.

From whence crossing over the Market-place into the *Hoogstraet*, another Triumphal Arch stood ready erected to receive them with these Words:

INGREDERE AUSPICUS BATAVIS FOELICIBUS AULAM.

I pass over the Martial Ceremonies of *Volleys*, discharges of Cannon, Fire-works the most Exquisite that Art could invent, the Bonfires in the form of Pyramids and Castles, and other Solemnities, that were at vast Expences bestowed upon this Nuptial Entrance, as being more proper for a Relation than a History. It suffices that hardly more could have been added to express the Joy of the People, or the Satisfaction of the Magistrates.

Nor was it long before these happy Nuptials produced Effects answerable to the Promises of so potent a Prince and Mediator, as His Majesty of *Great Britain*; who as he had designed them for the publick Good of the *United Netherlands*, the Establishment of his Illustrious Nephew's Interests, now enfolded with Theirs, and the Advancement of the *Protestant Religion*, so was he most industriously as good as his Word. For no sooner was the Year

1678.

BEgun, but the early Winter Preparations of the King of *France* alarm'd all *Europe*, but more eſpecially the *Dutch*, and their Allies. Thereupon his Majeſty of *Great Britain* ſent the Earl of *Feverſham* to the King of *France*, with a Project of Peace, by vertue of which the Cities of *Charleroy*, *Ath*, *Oudenard*, *Courtray*, *Tournay*, *Conde*, *Valenciennes*, and St. *Guilain*, ſhould be reſtored to the *Spaniards*, in lieu of which the King of *France* was to keep *la Franche Comte* entire to himſelf. But neither would the King of *France* agree to this, neither would the King of *England* remit of his Propoſals. So that in this uncertainty of Affairs, his Majeſty of *Great Britain* ſends away a Commiſſion to his Embaſſador the Lord *Hyde*, then at the *Hague*, to conclude a ſtrict Alliance between himſelf and the States General, by which it was among other things agreed, that the King of *England* and the States General, ſhould mutually aſſiſt and defend each other, by ſuch ways and means, and with ſuch Forces as ſhould be agreed upon between them.

That the Cities of *Charleroy*, *Ath*, *Oudenard*, *Courtray*, *Tournay*, *Conde*, *Valenciennes*, and St. *Guelain*, ſhould be reſtored to the *Spaniards*, with all ſuch other Places of which the *French* had made them Maſters, ſince the taking of St. *Guilain*.

That the County of *Burgundy* ſhould remain in poſſeſſion of the *French*.

That as to the United *Netherlands*, that in *Europe* there ſhould be a Reſtitution of all things on both ſides.

That in conſideration of the Alliance between the Emperour and the States, that care ſhould be taken that all things ſhould be adjuſted according to Equity and Reaſon.

That as for the Duke of *Lorrain* his Dukedom ſhould be reſtored him.

As for the King of *Sweden*, that there ſhould be a Suſpenſion of Arms till all the Conditions of Peace were agreed upon.

And laſtly, if the King of *France* ſhould refuſe to accept theſe Conditions, that then the King of *Great Britain*, and the States, ſhould unite their Forces to compel him to Reaſon.

This Alliance thus concluded, his Majeſty diſpatched away the Lord *Montague*, his Embaſſadour into *France*, once more to preſs the Acceptance of his Propoſals, and to give more weight to his Demands, began to make new Levies both of Horſe and Foot. But the King of *France* rejected his Propoſitions, making vaſt Preparations on all ſides for War, but more eſpecially in his New *Netherland* Conqueſts. Which conſtrained the King of *England* to recal his Forces out of the French Service; where they were but very courſely uſed, and after they were recalled, ungratefully ſent back without their Pay.

His Majeſty of *Great Britain* therefore vigorouſly proſecutes his firſt Reſolutions, and at the Meeting of the Parliament, acquaints them with the Alliance which he had made with *Holland*, for the Publick Good and Repoſe of *Chriſtendom*, and with his Determinations to compel the King of *France* to that Peace which he had ſet on foot, and of which himſelf was now become the ſole Mediator; deſiring [illegible] ſupplies of Money neceſſary for ſuch an Enterprize. In anſwer to which, the Commons addreſſed themſelves to his Majeſty, and after they had returned him their humble thanks for his care of the Proteſtant Religion, by Marrying his Niece to a Proteſtant Prince, they beſought him not to conſent to any Conditions of Peace that ſhould put the King of *France* into a better Condition than he was by the *Pyrenean* Treaty. To which when the King had returned an Anſwer, the Commons after a ſhort debate, reſolved the ſetting forth a Fleet of Ninety Men of War, and raiſing a Land-Army of Twenty nine thouſand and ſeventy Men, and appointed Commiſſioners to compute the Charges, which amounted to One hundred fifty ſeven thouſand nine hundred ſeventy one pounds a month. But then how to raiſe this Money, was a Debate too tedious for the ſwiftneſs of the King of *France*'s Motions.

However,

However, thus far his Majeſty had proceeded, before the Allies had made any Progreſs, but only in Conferences with what numbers, and in what places to oppoſe the *French*, who like a black Thunder-Cloud began to hover already over the *Spaniſh Netherlands*. And which was worſe when they came to a concluſion what number of Men was neceſſary, and that the States Deputies offered their Thirty thouſand Men, to joyn with Ten thouſand *Spaniards* ready raiſed, unleſs it were the Biſhop of *Munſter*, that offered about Nine thouſand Horſe and Foot, there was not any one of all the reſt of the Deputies, but what reply'd, they had no Orders to confer either about the time of Rendezvouze or Number of Men. So that the Prince of *Orange* with the *Dutch* and *Spaniſh* Forces, was ſtill conſtrained to bear the firſt Brunts, and thoſe always the moſt impetuous of the French Fury; and to look on with regret to ſee thoſe Lawrels raviſhed from his Brows, which elſe he might have won, but for the diſappointment of Confederate Friendſhip.

All this the King of *France* well knew, and therefore he made early haſt to do his buſineſs, before a ſlow Enemy, either for want of active Reſolution, or Money, was ready to oppoſe him. To that end he ſet forward from *Paris* the ſeventh of *Feb*[illegible] and by the firſt of *March* ſate down before *Gaunt*, the Capital City of *Flanders*, with an Army of between three and fourſcore thouſand men. Nor was it poſſible for a Town of ſo large a circuit, to defend it ſelf with no more than a Garriſon of four or five hundred Souldiers, beſides the Inhabitants, againſt the fury of a Prince, who valued the winning of a Half-moon beyond the loſs of a thouſand men, and who fearleſs of Diſturbance, gave them no Reſt by day nor night; but with inceſſant Batteries and Stormings, tir'd out their feeble ſtrength. *Gaunt* therefore being forced to ſurrender within nine days after it was beſieged, the victorious Enemy fell upon *Ypre* with the ſame rapid Violence; but in regard this Town was ſtronger than *Gaunt*, and furniſhed with a better Garriſon, the Beſiegers found ſo ſtout a Reſiſtance there, and loſt ſo many Officers and Souldiers before they took it,

that the King of *France*, whether it were that he found his Army ſufficiently tir'd by theſe two Sieges, or that he thought that by going thus far, he had brought his Enemies into a condition low enough to accept of his own Terms of Accommodation. or whether he feared the growing numbers of the *Engliſh*, he ſent the greateſt part of his Army into Garriſons to refreſh themſelves, and returned to *Paris*.

For by this time the Duke of *Monmouth* was got to *Bruges* with near three thouſand Horſe and Foot, which the King of *Great Britain* had ſent to re-enforce the *Holland* and *Spaniſh* Army; and the Parliament then ſitting, were ſo eager in the Proſecution of the French War, that they beſought him to declare open Hoſtilities, promiſing his Majeſty withal, to ſtand by him with their Lives and Fortunes, and to aſſiſt him from time to time with ſuch Subſidies and other Levies of Money, as the importance of ſuch a Royal Deſign ſhould require.

During theſe Tranſactions, it was aſtoniſhing News to hear that the King of *France* had totally quitted *Meſſina* and all *Sicily*. And the more penetrating Politicians were now of opinion, that there would be no hopes of Peace on this ſide *Europe*, as believing that the King of *France* had abandoned his Conqueſts in thoſe remote Parts, as he had done before his Acquiſts in the *United Netherlands*, to the end he might the better be enabled to turn all his Forces upon the *Low Countries*, the King of *Spain*, and the Emperour. Tho' others looked upon it as an Argument that the King of *France* was not ſo ſtrong as he boaſted himſelf to be, and that he did it rather out of neceſſity, than in compliance to his own Deſigns.

However it were, it created a ſtrong Suſpicion in the Parliament, that the King of *France* reſolved to continue the War in *Germany* and the *Netherlands*, and to make himſelf a more potent Neighbour than they deſired he ſhould be. So that they finiſhed the Poll-money Bill, and in the ſame Act forbid the Importation of French Goods into *England*. His Majeſty of *Great Britain* alſo was deſirous at the ſame time to have entered into a

Quadruple

Quadruple Alliance with the Emperour, the King of *Spain*, and the States General, that there ſhould have been the ſame Prohibition of the Importation of French Goods into any of their Dominions, as he had made in reference to his own Kingdoms, which was the only reaſon that he forbore to proclaim the ſo-much-deſired Rupture with *France*, till thoſe two things were concluded. But while the *Hollanders* boggled at the laſt Point, as believing ſuch a Prohibition would cauſe an utter Decay of their Trade, an unlucky Accident changed the whole Face of Affairs.

For the King of *France* being returned to *France*, and finding the King of *Great Britain* ſo reſolute in the Intereſts of his Nephew the Prince of *Orange*, more eſpecially ſince the Prince's Voyage into *England*, and Marriage of his Niece, in favour of whom it was ſtrongly reported, that his Royal Highneſs the Duke of *York* himſelf, was preparing to paſs over into *Flanders* to Head the *Engliſh*, (if not the whole Confederate Army in thoſe Parts) form'd a Project of Peace himſelf, and ſent it to his Embaſſadors at *Nimmeghen*, to be delivered to the Embaſſadours and Mediators of the Allies, by the hands of the Engliſh Mediators.

The chief of theſe Propoſals were, That the King of *Swedeland*, and the Duke of *Gotorp* ſhould be entirely ſatisfied.

That the Prince and Biſhop of *Strasburgh* ſhould be reſtored to all his Territories, Goods, Honours and Prerogatives; and that his Brother, Prince *William* of *Fuſtenburgh*, ſhould be ſet at Liberty.

As to the Emperour, That he would alter nothing from the public Declarations he had already made, which were ſtill to inſiſt upon the Treaties of *Weſtphalia*: Only he offered, either to keep *Friburgh* and reſtore *Philipsburgh*, or to keep *Philipsburgh* and reſtore *Friburgh*.

As for *Spain*, he was content to reſtore *Charleroy*, *Ath*, *Oudenard*, *Courtray*, *Gaunt*, and *Saint Guilaine*, with their ſeveral Dependences, and *Chaſtelraines*: In lieu of which, he demanded *Franche Conte* entire, *Valenciennes*, *Bou-*

Bouchain, *Conde*, *Cambray*, *Aire*, and *Saint Omers*, with their Dependencies, and *Caſtleſhips*; and, in a word, all thoſe places of which he was Maſter, except thoſe before excepted.

Moreover, that he was willing to reſtore *Charlemont* or *Dinant* to the *Catholic King*, provided he could procure the Biſhop of *Liege*'s and the Emperour's conſent.

That the Confines between *Spain* and the *Low Countries*, to begin from the Sea, ſhould be the *Meuſe*, *Newport*, *Dixmude*, *Courtray*, *Oudenard*, *Aeth*, *Mons*, *Charleroy*, and *Namur*: And theſe Bounds to be aſſured by thoſe Places, the Fortifications of which had coſt him Millions, and by the parting with which, he deprived himſelf of thoſe Advantages which he poſſeſſed, even to the Gates of *Bruſſels*.

As to the States General, beſides the Satisfaction given them by the Articles relating to *Spain*, That he was content to reſtore them *Maeſtricht*, and to grant them the Treaty of Commerce in the ſame manner as it had been already ſettled.

As to the Duke of *Lorrain*, That he was willing to reſtore him, either according to the *Pyrenean* Treaty, or elſe to ſurrender to him all his Territories, excepting *Nancy*; in lieu of which, he would give him the City of *Toule*, reſerving to himſelf a free Paſſage into *Alſatia*, and from *France* to *Nancy*, ſo to *Metz*, *Briſac*, and *Franche Conte*.

Theſe Propoſals were pleaſing to ſome, but utterly by others diſliked; for, as to the Intereſt of the States, they had no reaſon to reject them; but the Miniſters of the Allies, being conferred with at the *Hague*, abſolutely refuſed them as unjuſt and unreaſonable, in regard the King of *France* demanded entire ſatisfaction for his own Allies, but denied it to thoſe of the other ſide. But the King of *France* demanding a poſitive Anſwer before the tenth of *May* enſuing, the Prince of *Orange* was ſent for to be preſent at the General Aſſembly of the States; where, after a long Debate, becauſe the Miniſters of the Allies excuſed their Compliance, by reaſon of the ſhortneſs of the time prefixed, Monſieur *Beverning*

verning was ſent back to *Nimeghen*, to try if he could procure a longer day for the Allies; while other Embaſſadours were diſpatched to *London* and *Bruſſels*, to incline the *Spaniards* to an Acceptance of the Propoſitions.

Monſieur *de Leide* coming into *England*, was looked upon with an evil Eye by the Houſe of Commons, as believing that the *Hollanders* ſought to make a haſty and diſhonourable Peace with *France*, and in that heat, more inflamed by Jealouſies of a Popiſh Intereſt at Court, reſolved that they would give his Majeſty no more Money till the Proteſtant Religion was fully ſecured. Which offended his Majeſty to that degree, that the Parliament was ſoon after prorogued.

On the other ſide, the *Spaniards* began to comply with the *States*, which they were the rather inclined to do, perceiving *England* and *Holland* agreed, and for that the Condition of their own Affairs grew ſtill worſe and worſe, by the loſs of the ſtrong Hold of *Leeum*, which was unhappily ſurprized by the French, much about the ſame time. But nothing induced them more to a Concurrence, than the return of the King of *France* to his Army near *Bruſſels*, ſurrounded with two numerous Armies more, one upon the *Rhine*, and the other between the *Samber* and the *Meuſe*, which threatned nothing but the total loſs of the *Spaniſh Netherlands*, ſhould the *Dutch* make a Peace without them, and ſtand Neuters during the whole Courſe of the remaining War, to which they were already fairly courted by the King of *France*.

The *Spaniards* therefore thus conſtrained to ſubmit to the Neceſſity of their Affairs, declared themſelves ready to comply with the *Dutch*, and with the ſame Diligence the *States-General* inceſſantly laboured to prevail with the reſt of the Allies, whoſe Miniſters nevertheleſs ſpun out the time with Memoirs and Replies, till at length, the *States* tired out with theſe *Remoras*, gave poſitive Orders to their Ambaſſadors at *Nimeghen*, to ſign the Treaty. But then they were not a little aſtoniſhed to find that the Plenipotentiaries of *France* refuſed to ſet their Hands, upon new Demands of Satisfaction to be given in

full

full to the King of *Sweden*, before the King of *France* would proceed to a final Concluſion.

This created new Difficulties, and occaſioned new Complaints from the *States*, of the unjuſt Dealings of the King of *France*, after ſo ready a Compliance with his own Propoſals. The King returns for Anſwer, that he was willing to advance as far as St. *Quintins*, where he would ſtay ſix days in expectation of ſuch Commiſſioners as they ſhould think fit to ſend to adjuſt the Difference. But the *States* believing they had condeſcended low enough already, replied, that the ſending of Commiſſioners would but be to give his Majeſty an unneceſſary trouble to reconcile new Differences after a poſitive Agreement; that therefore they were ready to Sign, which if his Majeſty refuſed to do, nothing more remained for them, but to proteſt their own Innocency, and to lay the juſt Blame upon his Majeſty, of the Miſchiefs that ſhould afterwards enſue. And withal, they decreed among themſelves, the Prince of *Orange* being preſent, not to ſend any more to the King of *France*, till the Treaty was ſigned.

The News of this Difference, and of the Reſolutions of the *Dutch* to continue the War, unleſs the King of *France* quitted his great Zeal for the *Swedes*, arriving in *England*, the Parliament, who before were all for diſbanding the Forces raiſed by his Majeſty, and laying up the Fleet, now voted the Continuance both of the Forces by Land, and of the Fleet by Sea. His Majeſty alſo ſent away ſome part of his Regiments into *Flanders*, muſter'd the reſt in *England*, in order to a War, made a new League, Offenſive and Defenſive with the *United Provinces*, and both together prefixed a ſhort time for the King of *France* to Sign, or declare his farther Intentions.

Theſe round and reſolute Proceedings of the King of *England*, at length put an end to a long and tedious Affair, ſo that the Treaty between *France* and *Holland*, was ſigned upon the Eleventh of *Auguſt*, about Midnight. And much better it had been, for the King of *France* that he had made leſs uſe of his refined Politicks, which had

had like to have coſt him the loſs of all *Luxemburgh*'s Army.

For *Mons* in *Hainault*, having been long blockt up by the *French*, was now reduced to great ſtreights; inſomuch that his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange*, underſtanding that the Confederates had joyned the *Holland* and *Spaniſh* Forces that lay near the Canal of *Bruſſels*, departed by Night from the *Hague* the 26th of *July*. Upon his coming to the Army, his Highneſs held a Council of War with the Generals of the Allies, where it was concluded, that they ſhould all diſlodge and follow the Duke of *Luxemburgh*, who directed his march toward *Mons*, on purpoſe to prevent the putting Relief into the City.

With theſe Reſolutions his Highneſs ſet forward at the beginning of *Auguſt* with his whole Army, at what time, he had hardly paſſed through *Bruſſels*, but he was met by General *Spaen*, with a Reinforcement of ſix thouſand *Brandenburghers* and *Munſterians*. Upon notice of the Prince's march, the French, who had lain for ſome days at *Soignes*, quitted their Camp, ſo that the Confederates lodged in the ſame place which the Enemy had abandoned the day before. From whence, marching toward *Rocles*, his Highneſs advanced with his Left-Wing as far as the Abbey of St. *Dennis*, where the Duke of *Luxemburgh* had his Head Quarters, and leaſt expected an Attaque. For it was a Poſt almoſt inacceſſible, there being no coming at the Enemy, but through Woods and narrow Paths, environ'd with Precipices. With his Right-Wing he faced *Caſteau*, which the French alſo poſſeſſed, and which was no leſs difficult of acceſs than the former. So ſoon as the Army was embattel'd, his Highneſs thought it convenient to drive the Enemy from a Hillock, where they had poſted themſelves to his diſadvantage. Which being ſoon done, he ſent for ſome great Guns and play'd upon the French that lay ſomewhat above and upon the one ſide of a Cloyſter near St. *Dennis*, which the French thought to have maintain'd with their Artillery. But it was impoſſible for them to reſiſt the fury of the Confederate Dragoons, who drove

drove the Enemy from their Faſtneſs, and made themſelves Maſters of the Cloyſter, while Adjutant-General *Collyer* advanced toward the Abbey, and ſeconded by General *Delwick*, fil'd through the narrow Paſſages, and ſliding down the Precipices with an invincible Courage, drave the Enemy, after a vigorous reſiſtance, within their own Lines. In the midſt of which Pel-mel, his Highneſs, accompanied by the Duke of *Monmouth*, (who fought all the day by his ſide) and animated with Succeſs, with his Eyes ſparkling like Fire, cried out, *To Me, to Me*, to encourage the Advance of the Regiments that were to ſecond the foremoſt. There was no ſparing of Powder and Bullets on either ſide; almoſt all the Regiments of the Left-Wing following one another till the Evening, with the ſame Vigor and Reſolution. Count *Horn*, likewiſe drew his Cannon nearer, and play'd into the Val'ey upon the French Battalions, not without conſiderable Execution.

From thence his Highneſs flew to *Caſteau*, which was attacked by the *Spaniards* in the Right-Wing; where his Highneſs's Foot Regiment of Guards had the Vanguard under the Conduct of Count *Solmes*; who being ſeconded by the Regiments of *Roque Sereres*, *Holſtein*; and the *Engliſh* through Fire and Flames, after an obſtinate Combate, wherein the Regiment of Guards was five hours together engaged with the Enemy, drave them from a Poſt, which was deemed impregnable, and purſued them a quarter of a League through a Field and down a Precipice, where glides the River *Haines*, to the farther ſide of *Caſteau*.

The Lord of *Oſſory* did wonders with the *Engliſh*, at a little diſtance from the Guards; where the *French* loſt abundance of Men.

Nor was there any of the Generals, that did not behave themſelves with a Valor equal to that of the ancient Hero's. More eſpecially his Highneſs, who in the midſt of Fire and Smoak, and Bullets flying thick as Hail, adventured ſo far, that he had been in imminent danger, had not Mr. *De Owerkirk* oppoſed himſelf againſt a daring Captain, that was juſt ready to charge the Prince full career, and laid the briſk Aſſailant dead upon the Spot.

All

All this while the Cavalry were only looking on; by reaſon the ſituation of the place would not allow the Horſe to be ſerviceable in narrow paſſages and ſteep deſcents. So that the whole brunt of the Conflict lay upon the Infantry and Dragoons.

Night put an end to the Bloody Conteſt, under the favour of which the Duke of *Luxemburgh* drew off in great ſilence, and no leſs confuſion, and retreated nearer *Mons*, to cover himſelf with a Wood on the one ſide, and a River on the other; leaving to his Highneſs, as the Marks of certain Victory, the Field of Battel, the greateſt part of his wounded Men, ſeveral of his Tents, much of his Baggage, and a conſiderable quantity of Powder and other warlike Ammunition.

The States-General, upon news of this Succeſs, appointed Commiſſioners to congratulate his Victory, gained with ſo much Reputation and Glory, and to return him Thanks for his Provident and Prudent Conduct, and the noble Exploits which he had perſonally perform'd in ſuch an Obſtinate Engagement, to the hazard of his Life: beſeeching him withal, above all things, to be careful and ſparing of his Illuſtrious Perſon, conſidering that in all humane probability the Tranquility of his Country, and the Repoſe of the Church and Reformed Religion depended upon his ſafety. Moreover, to ſhew the high value which they ſet upon his Preſervation, in acknowledgement of Mr. *Overkirk's* Proweſs, who had ſo valiantly and ſucceſsfully oppoſed himſelf againſt the Danger that threatned his Highneſs, they order'd him to be preſented with a Sword, the Hilt of which was of Maſſy Gold; a Pair of Piſtols richly inlay'd with Gold, and a Pair of Horſe-Buckles of the ſame Metal.

His Highneſs having thus conſtrained the Duke of *Luxemburgh* to retire, would have certainly purſued his Advantages toward the full Relief of the Town. But while he was conſulting what to do, Intelligence was brought to the Army, that the *States-General* and the King of *France* were agreed. Upon which a Ceſſation of Arms enſuing, the *French* Army drew off to the Coun-

Country, between the *Samber* and the *Meuſe*; and his Highneſs retreated to *Eſcouſines* upon the Road to *Nivelle*, from whence he returned to the *Hague*.

The Succeſs of this Battel haſten'd alſo the Signing of the Treaty between *France* and *Spain*, which was done upon the Seventeenth of *September* enſuing. So juſt was the King of *Great Britain* to his Royal Promiſes; adding to his compaſſionate Mediation the Terror of his Arms, and at the ſame time equally with both Victorious. As if Peace and the General Good of *Europe*, had been his Nieces Dowry, and that the two Important Alliances between the *United Provinces* and the King of *France*, and between the King of *Spain*, and the King of *France* had been but the deſcending Influences of the Conjugal Alliance between his Highneſs and the Princeſs *Mary* of *England*; which had engaged his Majeſty of *Great Britain* to lend his aſſiſting Hand to curb the growing Power of the *French* Monarch.

The War being thus concluded between *France* and the *United Netherlands*, His Highneſs had now leiſure to repoſe himſelf after the Toyls and Hardſhips of the preceeding Campagns For after the Ratification of the League, and the Surrender of *Maeſtricht* back to the *States*, the King of *France* gave no farther trouble by force of Arms, to the particular Territories of the *Low-Countries*. So that after his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange* had taken care to reform the Innovations of the *French*, and to ſettle the Affairs of that Garriſon, all things began to look with a new face of quiet and tranquility.

But freſh Diſſentions kindling between the Kings of *Spain* and *France*, upon certain Pretentions which the King made to *Oudenburgh de Gand*, the City and Caſtle of *Aelſt*, with their Dependencies. The Cities of *Gramount*, *Ninove* and *Ruderſhove*, the Country of *Beveren*: the Baliages of *Aſſenede*, *Bouchaine*, *Weert*, *Heerbrug*, *Opdorp*, *Moortſelle*, St. *Amand*; and the Countries of *Bornheim*, *Flobeck* and *Leſſines*; and theſe demands being inſiſted upon by the King of *France* with that rigor, that inſtead of remitting in the leaſt, he had given order to Marſhal

Marſhal *Crequi* to block up *Luxemburgh*, and not to let any Proviſion be carried into the City, on purpoſe to force the *Spaniards*, it was not thought reaſonable either by his *Highneſs* or the *States-General*, to look on as Neuters in ſuch a dangerous Conjuncture. For on the one ſide they were afraid, leſt a Rupture between thoſe two Crowns might engage them in a new War: on the other ſide, though they ſhould remain'd without diſturbance, yet they thought it more ſafe to preſerve the *Netherlands* to the *Spaniards*, than to have ſo formidable a Neighbour as the *French* always hovering over their Frontiers.

Thereupon, at the Inſtance of the *Spaniards* themſelves, who made their Applications both to them, as alſo to the King of *Great Britain*, in regard the Conference of the *French* and *Spaniſh* Commiſſioners at *Courtray* came to no effect, the *States-General* made it their buſineſs, to employ the chiefeſt of their Counſe'ls, to compoſe theſe Differences by way of Amity and Reconciliation. For tho' the *Spaniards*, upon the blockiug up of *Luxemburgh* preſſed the *States* to ſend the Succour of eight thouſand Men, to which they were obliged by Articles, in caſe of any Attacks of the French, contrary to the Peace concluded, yet they rather choſe the more quiet and ſafer method of Mediation.

To this purpoſe his Majeſty of *Great Britain*, together with the *States-General* by their Miniſters at *Paris*, preſſed the King of *France* to remit ſome part of his Claims, or at leaſt to order his Forces to quit the Blocade of *Luxemburgh*, till the new-riſen Differences could be adjuſted. To which the King of *France* reply'd, That he was willing to releaſe all the Claims which he had or could make, to all the places above mentioned, provided the *Spaniards* in lieu thereof, would ſurrender up into his hands the City of *Luxemburgh*, with all the Territories three Leagues round about it. And this Propoſal the King of *France* propounded to the King of *England*, for a Ground to proceed to a farther Treaty. Nor did his Majeſty of *Great Britain*, or the *States-General* when it was imparted by his Majeſty to their Conſideration,

think it an unreaſonable Propoſition, more eſpecially if at the ſame time the King of *France* would forbear any farther diſtreſſing the City of *Luxemburgh*. All which the *States-General*, after they had adviſed with his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange*, thought fit to ſignifie to the *Spaniſh* Miniſters, and to preſs their Concurrence.

This Propoſal of the Surrender of *Luxemburgh*, and the Teritories belonging to it, being rejected by the *Spaniards*, the King of *France* declared himſelf contented to refer all Matters in queſtion to the Umpirage of the King of *Great Britain*. But neither did this pleaſe the jealous *Spaniards*, who covertly ſuſpected partiality in the King of *Great Britain*, as being by that time enter'd into an Alliance with *France*; but openly pretending that *England* was not in a Condition to undertake a Foreign War, ſhould the French refuſe to ſubmit to the Arbitration.

This delay of the King of *Spain* in accepting the Umpirage of the King of *England*, was no way pleaſing to the King of *France*; ſo that he prefix'd a ſhort time for the *Spaniard*, either to accept the Arbitration, or refuſe it. Which as it did not a little perplex the *States-General*, who were afraid of the Conſequences of new Acts of Hoſtility, ſo ſoon as the time limited ſhould be expired, they came to a Reſolution to preſs the King of *Spain* to a ſpeedy acceptance of the Umpirage; and on the other ſide they earneſtly deſired his Majeſty of *Great Britain* to take the Arbitration upon him, and to interpoſe his high Credit and Authority with the two differing Crowns, that all Parties intereſted might meet, ann prepare all Matters ready for his Determination.

But then the King of *England*, being ſenſible that *France* would never condeſcend to any more appointments of Places and Perſons, which would require a longer time than was convenient for his Advantages, more eſpecially ſeeing that all the Parties were already met at *Frankfort*, in order to a general Reconciliation, endeavour'd to throw the Umpirage from himſelf, as deeming it more proper for the States to undertake; and thus hung the Acceptance of the Arbitration all that Year.

Upon this Proſpect of future Troubles that menac'd the

the Repoſe of *Europe*, in regard the *Spaniards* neglected the Arbitration of *England*, and for that the *States-General*, contrary to the Sentiments of his Majeſty of *Great Britain*, did not think it ſo conducing to the main, to urge the *Spaniards* to the acceptance of it, unleſs it were done with an incluſion of all the Allies, moſt men were afraid leſt after the fifteenth of *January* was paſt, which was the time prefix'd for *Spain* to reſolve the acception or not, the King of *France* ſhould renew the War againſt the *Spaniſh Netherlands*. The States therefore importunately preſt the King of *England*, by his careful Management and the Grandeur of his Credit, to prevent all Acts of French Hoſtility either againſt the Emperor, the Empire, or the King of *Spain*.

To all which the King of *Great Britain* made anſwer, that he was ready to perform all good Offices between the two Crowns; but that he doubted of ſucceeding any other wiſe than by adviſing the acceptance of the Arbitration, and haſtning the Empire to a ſpeedy Accommodation. Nay, the King himſelf did not refrain from intimating to the Embaſſadours the Intelligence which he had, that the States themſelves had diſſwaded the *Spaniard* from acceptance of the Arbitriment. Which the Embaſſadours excuſed, by telling his Majeſty, that what the States had done, was not by reaſon they were averſe to his Majeſty's Umpirage, but to prevent any jealouſie which the King of *Spain* and the reſt of the Allies might conceive of them, as if the States had no deſire to fulfil their Treaties and Alliances, but ſought to make uſe of this pretence to ſhake them off: which might cauſe a general ſeparation of all the Allies, and conſequently cauſe a breach between the Crown of *Spain* and the *United Netherlands*, and give an occaſion to his Catholic Majeſty to deny them his Aſſiſtance in caſe of neceſſity; their ſafety depending ſolely upon their own and the Forces of their Allies.

But all this produced no more from the King of *England*, than that he would do his utmoſt Endeavours, but could promiſe nothing. However, he prevailed ſo far with the *Moſt Chriſtian King*, in behalf of the Empe-

rour, that he offered a Truce for thirty Years, and prolonged the Term prefixed for Acceptance of the Arbitration, and the Refusal of this Propoſition, till the laſt of *Auguſt*, without giving any interruption, either to the King of *Spain* or the Emperour: which, if others did not, the King of *France* lookt upon in himſelf as an Act of great Generoſity, not to meddle with the Emperour, who had now more than enough to do with the *Turks*.

But though his Truce propoſed for thirty Years, was by ſeveral of the States of the Empire, lookt upon as a reaſonable Propoſal, as ſeemingly reſtoring, for ſo long time at leaſt, a breathing ſpace of Repoſe and Tranquillity to the Empire; yet others there were that utterly rejected it, as altogether prejudicial to the Empire; alledging, That a Truce of that continuance, would only be to give the King a more ſtable Footing in the places which he poſſeſſed, and in ſome meaſure to confirm a Title to his unjuſt (as they called them) Pretenſions; more eſpecially, unleſs before hand they came to an Agreement touching the manner and continuance of the Truce: But in regard, that after a long Debate at *Ratisbonne*, theſe two points could not be Adjuſted, the Progreſs of this Negotiation advanced but very ſlowly.

All this while the States of *Holland* no leſs inceſſantly laboured an Accommodation, and to that end propoſed the *Hague* for the general Rendevouze of the Negotiators, and preſſed the King of *Spain* ſo far, that though he had rejected the King of *Great Britain*'s Arbitrement, yet he accepted of their good Intentions to deſire his Mediation; and was willing the *Hague* ſhould be the place of Conference, provided the Emperour likewiſe gave his Conſent. All this was ſignified to the States Embaſſadours at *London*, and they thereupon ordered to preſs his Majeſty to propound his General Mediation to the King of *France*. Which though the Court of *England* lookt upon as a thing that would prove altogether unſucceſsful, yet the King promiſed to gratifie the States in that particular; Nevertheleſs, he could

could not forbear, when the Miniſters of the Emperour and *Spain* next attended him, to let them underſtand, that it would be far better for them, both to accept of the *French* Propoſa's, and to Surrender *Luxemburgh*, which would at once put an end to all Differences without any farther diſpute or delay.

But neither the Emperour nor the King of *Spain* reſolve ſo ſoon to take his Advice; and therefore, the King of *France*, to ſpur up this *Spaniſh* Heſitation, and to compel his *Catholic Majeſty* to do him that Juſtice which he demanded; toward the latter end of *Auguſt*, being the utmoſt limit of the time prefixed, ordered Marſhal *d'Humieres* to enter the Dominions of the King of *Spain*, in the *Spaniſh Netherlands*, and to put all the flat Country under Contribution: who, upon receipt of theſe Orders, powers into *Flanders*, *Brabant* and other places, with a numerous Body of *French*, Plundering and Pillaging all before him; breaking down the Houſes of ſuch as denied to bring in their Aſſeſſments, and conniving at all thoſe other Inſolencies which attend on War. This was repaid by the *Spaniſh* Garriſons to the *French* in the ſame coyn, and more particularly the Prince of *Chimai*, Governour of *Luxemburgh*, fell into the *French* Territories, where he uſed the ſame Violencies, and took ſeveral Caſtles. On the other ſide, Marſhal *d'Humieres* lays Siege to *Courtray*, and takes it; and in revenge of *Yſenguin*, burnt by the *Spaniards*, fir'd ten times the value in the *Spaniſh* Territories. Upon this, the *Spaniards* lay an Imbargo upon the Goods of all *French* Inhabitants under their Juriſdiction, and Confiſcate their Eſtates; while the Marſhal, paſſing the Canal of *Bruges* and the *Scheldt*, by the favour of the Ice, lays in Aſhes no leſs than ten or twelve Villages, and conſtrains the reſt to Compound for their Contributions: Moreover, to puniſh the *Luxemburghers* for the Ravages they had committed in the *French* Territories, Marſhal *Crequi* came before the Town with thirty thouſand Men, and after he had ruined above five hundred Houſes, with his Bombs, retreated to his Winter Quarters.

In

In the midſt of theſe Devaſtations, the *French* Embaſſadour makes an Offer to the States, from the King of *France*, of Five Equivalents, which being granted, he was willing to Terminate all the Differences between the two diſcording Crowns: The *firſt* was the Surrender of *Luxemburgh*; the *ſecond* was the Reſignation of *Courtray* and *Dixmude*, (leaving however *Deynſe*, with its Dependencies, to the *Spaniard*) the *Caſtlewick* of *Aeth*, *Beaumont* and *Bovignes*, with their Dependencies; the *third*, an Equivalent either in *Navarre*, or *Catalonia*; if in *Catalonia*, he demanded the remainder of the County of *Cerdaigne*, (to which *Puycerda* belonged) *Surdurgel*, *Canredon*, and *Caſtel-Folito*, with their Dependencies; or, *Roziz*, *Gironne*, and *Cap de Quieves*, with their Dependencies; if in *Navarre*, his Majeſty demanded *Pampelona* and *Fontarabia*, with their Dependencies: Upon which Conditions, the King of *Spain* might chuſe either Peace or War.

But, in regard the *Spaniards* were utterly averſe to the quitting of *Luxemburgh*, and with Scorn rejected the Equivalents of *Catalonia* and *Navarre*; inſomuch, that the Marqueſs of *Caſtel Moncayo* could not forbear, in his *Memoire* upon the Propoſals to the States, to tax the *French* Embaſſadour for offering that Equivalent, only to ſhew that he knew the names of the moſt important Fortreſſes in the *Spaniſh* Dominions: Therefore it was, that the *Spaniards* renewed their importunate Inſtances to his Majeſty of *Great Britain*, even to that degree, as to Expoſtulate with his Majeſty, wherefore he delay'd the Succours which he was obliged by Articles to ſend to his Allies in Diſtreſs. To which the King made anſwer, That he wondred his *Catholic Majeſty* ſhould preſs him for Succour at a time when the condition of his Affairs at home, would not permit him to undertake a War abroad; however, that he was ſtill ready to do the utmoſt, that his Endeavours could contribute toward the General Peace of *Europe*, and the particular Service he owed his Majeſty of *Spain*.

But no way ſatisfied with this, they repeat their Importunities in *England*, and farther Addreſt themſelves for

for Aid to the States: But all theſe things ſerved rather to drill out time, than to give any aſſiſtance to the *Spaniards*, who, contrary to their own Nature, ſeemed now to act with more Precipitancy, and leſs Conſideration of their own low Condition, than the reſt of their Neighbours. And indeed ſuch was the Averſion of the Province of *Holland*, to engage in new Broils with *France*, that whereas the States had reſolved, for their own Safety, to recruit their Land-Militia with a Re-inforcement of ſixteen thouſand Men, and required the Conſent of the ſeveral Provinces, the City of *Amſterdam* would by no means agree to any new Levies: alledging, That the King of *France* had offered an Accommodation; and that it became the King of *Spain* to accept of ſuch Conditions as he could get, ſince there was no likelihood that he could procure better by force of Arms. So that after the long Turmoiles, and tedious Diſputes and Expoſtulations of the Public Miniſters employed from the ſeveral Courts of the Princes concerned, that which over-rules all Humane Affairs, Neceſſity, which had a great influence upon the diſcording Parties at that time, began to incline them to a better underſtanding of their own Conditions.

For theſe Diſputes about Pretenſions, being ſet on foot in the Year 1681, had been bandied about till 1684: For the Emperour, though the *Ottoman* Forces did not appear ſo formidable as they had done the Year before, yet had he enough to do in *Hungary*, to court new Diſturbances in other Parts: The Affairs of *England* were all in Confuſion: the King of *France* found his Treaſures too much exhauſted to ſupport his uſual Numbers: *Spain* acknowledged herſelf too feeble to act without the Succours of her Allies: *Swedeland* longed for Peace: and if *Denmark* made Preparations for War, it was rather out of fear than otherwiſe: the greateſt part of the *German* Princes were no way in a condition to enter into new Broils, and thoſe that had ſcaped beſt, deſired rather an Accommodation: and as for the States-General, they had ſo lately felt the fatal Incon-

Inconveniences of a long and dangerous War, that they deſired nothing more than Peace. To which purpoſe, the laſt Year they had propſed to their Allies, a general Congreſs at the *Hague*, there to Conſult about the moſt immediate means to procure the general Repoſe of *Europe*; or in caſe thoſe Conſultations failed, what Meaſures to take to repel Violence by Force. The Conſequence of which, after many Conferences and Delays, was this: That the Truce for Twenty Years, offered by the King of *France*, ſhould be accepted, including the Allies on both ſides. Which being once reſolved upon, and the Articles of the Treaty agreed
1684 at the *Hague* upon the 29th of *June*; wherein, among other things, it was ſtipulated, That the King of *France* ſhould reſtore to the King of *Spain*, *Courtray* and *Dixmuyden* with their Dependencies, the Fortifications being firſt demoliſhed, together with all other places which he had won by Force of Arms, ſince the 30th of *Auguſt* 1683. And on the other ſide, That the King of *Spain* ſhould Surrender to his *Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty*, *Luxemburgh*, *Beaumont*, *Bovines*, and *Chimay* with the Dependencies and Villages thereto belonging; ſoon after the ſame Articles were concluded at *Ratisbonne* between the Kings of *Spain* and *France*: After which, the Emperour and his *Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty*, having reconciled their Differences by other Articles of the ſame nature, a Truce for the ſame Term was accorded likewiſe between thoſe two more Powerful Monarchs: which being not long after Ratified, though not without ſome Delays on the *Spaniard*'s part, (ſo tickliſh are the Conceſſions of nice and jealous Policy:) thoſe Devaſtations began to ceaſe which had laid waſt for many Years the moſt fertile Gardens of *Europe*.

In the midſt of theſe Tranſactions, which were ſeldom managed by the States, but in the preſence of his Highneſs, whoſe Prudence was ſtill conſulted in matters of greateſt Difficulty; it ſhewed a Generoſity more than extraordinary, that while others preferred Points of Honour before the Publicque Peace, he quitted his own

own Intereſt, and *Poſt-pon'd* the Demands of Reparation for the Devaſtations of his own Demeans and Territories, to the Neceſſities of his Country: For while the King of *France*, to force upon the ſtill-demurring *Spaniards*, the Acceptance of his own Conditions, lay burning, waſting and ſpoiling the *Spaniſh Netherlands*, and ſeveral adjacent Parts, a conſiderable part of the ancient Patrimony belonging to his Highneſs, went to rack in *Brabant*; *Luxemburgh* and *Burgundy*, where the Prince of *Iſenguyn*, ſupported by the Authority and Arms of the *French*, had ſeized upon his large Poſſeſſions of *Warneſſon*, *Vianden*, *Daesburgh*, *Budgenback*, *Saint Vith*, and other places, and had put both his Lands and Goods to Sale by Out-cry, as adjudged him by the formal Sentence of the Parliament of that Country: Of which though the Provinces of *Guelders*, *Zeland* and *Utrecht* made loud Complaints in his Highneſs's behalf, yet could the Prince obtain no Satisfaction.

Nor were the Violences which the *French* offered to his Principality of *Orange*, and the Damages which his Highneſs there ſuſtained leſs ſevere.

For after the King of *France* had cauſed his Declarations iſſued out againſt thoſe in his Kingdom of the Reformed Religion, to be put in Execution; the Perſecuted People ſent their Children to *Orange*, as being a Soveraign Principality, there to finiſh the courſe of their Studies in ſecurity. But this diſpleaſed his *Moſt Catholic Majeſty*; who thereupon ſent his Orders to Monſieur *Moran*, Superintendant of *Provence*, to march with a Body of above two thouſand Men, under the Command of Monſieur *Montanegues*, the King's Lieutenant-General in *Languedoc*, and poſitively co Command the Prince's Magiſtrates to ſend away all the Children home again, and not to receive any more for the future into their Academy, or any of their Schools. Which Command, though it appeared to the Magiſtrates very unjuſt and unreaſonable, yet to prevent farther Miſchiefs, they reſolved to obey it, promiſing to admit no more Children, and to write to the Parents of thoſe they had entertained, to ſend for them back a-

gain. By which means they thought they had given full satisfaction to the King of *France*'s Demands: but they were strangely surprized to hear, that during these Capitulation, that *Montenegues* approached with his armed Forces toward the chief City of the Principallity, with absolute Orders to break down the Walls of the City: But in short, he advanced, and having quartered eight Companies of Dragoons in the Citizens Houses, where they committed many Disorders and Exactions, and constrained, as well the Inhabitants of the City, as the other Subjects of his Highness's in the Villages round about, to work at the ruine of their own Walls, and the Towers which were undermined and blown up: All which the People laboured with so much the more hast and vigour, to the end they might be the sooner rid of those arbitrary Guests, who were said to have vitiated several Virgins already. The News of this being brought to the Prince's Council, they complained of it to the States General, as a Breach of the last Peace; desiring them withal, to signifie their just Resentment of these undue and violent Proceedings, to the King of *France*, and to demand Reparation of the Damages sustained by the Subjects of his Highness, in the midst of a General Peace, and without the least suspition of Provocation given.

Accordingly the States General wrote to the King of *France*, to let him understand the great Injuries that had been done the Prince of *Orange*'s Subjects, by his sending armed Souldiers to Demolish the Walls of the Chief City of his Principality, and to extort Money from the Inhabitants, directly contrary to the last League of *Nimeghen*; of which they could not be insensible, as not to inform his Majesty, and to pre for Reparation of the Damages which the Prince and his Subjects had so illegally, and contrary to the Fait of Articles sustained. But all the Answer they could get from the Court of *France*, was only this: That for the Money extorted from the Inhabitants, it was done without his Order, and he had Commanded Restitution to be made; that upon the Submission of the

Peop

People to his Will and Pleaſure, he had withdrawn his Forces out of the Principality, and reſtored free Commerce to the Inhabitants, according to their Deſires; but that as for the reſt, he had reaſon for what he did. Neither was there any thing more done effectually in this matter for three years together.

Nevertheleſs, ſo ſoon as the Truce began to be ſet on foot, the States began to think of Disbanding their Supernumerary Forces; and the Deputies of *Amſterdam* were ſo haſty as to preſs the Reformation of the Recruits that had been raiſed the year before it was concluded; but the Members alledging, that they ought firſt to take the Advice of the Prince of *Orange*: The matter was propounded by the States of *Holland* to his Highneſs, who gave them for anſwer, among other things, That there was no Perſon who deſired more than himſelf, to eaſe the People of their Taxes and Contributions; however, that he thought it ſomewhat ſtrange, that they ſhould talk of diſcontinuing the preſent State of the War, while the condition of their Affairs was yet ſo uncertain: which would be to render them unable either to Defend themſelves or Succour their Allies. That as yet the Truce was not concluded, but the War ſtill continued between the two Crowns: for which reſon the *Spaniſh Netherlands* were expoſed to imminent Dangers. That all the Potentates of *Europe* were ſtill in Arms, eſpecially their Neighbours; and therefore, that he judged it not ſo proper to alter the Conſtitution of their Militia, till they were ſecure from all ſiniſter Events.

Conformable to this Prudent Advice of his Highneſs, the States General reſolved, That their extraordinary Forces ſhould be continued from the firſt of *July* to the twentieth of *October* following. In the mean time, his Highneſs, no leſs vigilant to prevent Diſorders at Home, than to repel foreign Hoſtility, made it his buſineſs to reform the Government of *Utrecht*, by making ſuch Alterations in the Magiſtracy as he deemed moſt proper for the good of the City.

But here we muſt break off abruptly, having ſo fair an occaſion to make a Full-ſtop at the Concluſion of a War: For as for what remains, time muſt produce it; and there is no queſtion to be made, but that ſurviving Pens will never grutch themſelves the Honour to compleat the Story of one of the moſt Renowned Princes of his Age. Of whom a great Miniſter of State, and one who had been long acquainted with his ſurpaſſing Vertues, has given us this Noble Character, which ſhall ſerve to conclude this firſt Part of his Life, and excuſe me of Flattery, for what I have ſaid already of a Prince, (to uſe the words of that Unqueſtionable Judge and moſt excellent Writer) who joyned to the great Qualities of his Royal Blood, poſſeſſes all the popular Virtues of his Country: Silent and Thoughtful; given to Hear and Enquire; of a found ſteady Underſtanding; much Firmneſs in what he once Reſolves, or once Denies; great Induſtry and Application to his Buſineſs, little to his Pleaſure; Piety in the Religion of his Country, but with Charity to others; Temperance unuſual to his Youth, and to the Climate; Frugal in the common Management of his Fortune, and yet Magnificent upon occaſion; of a great Spirit and Heart, aſpiring to the Glory of Military Actions; with ſtrong Ambition to grow Great, but rather by the Service than Servitude of his Country; In ſhort, a Prince of Many Vertues, without any appearing Mixture of Vice.

FINIS.

THE TABLE.

A.

ADolphus *of* Naſſau *Emperour of* Germany Pag. 1
Adolphus *of* Naſſau *kills the* C. *of* Arembergh, *and is by him ſlain* 12
Duke of Albra *marches in the* Low Countries; *where he ſeizes upon the* C. Egmont *&* Horn, *and puts them to death* 10. *He ſummons the Prince of* Orange *to ſurrender himſelf* 11 *His grievous Impoſitions in the* Low Countries 15. *Recalled out of* Flanders 22
Duke of Anjou *ſent for by the Prince* 28. *He takes his Oath* 31. *Which he forfeits* 33. *Returns into* France, *and dies* ibid.
Antwerp *plundred by the* Spaniards 22
Amſterdam *ſurrenders to the States* 26

B.

Bon *beſieged by the Confederates* 71. *Taken* 72
Bouchain *beſieged* 101. *And taken* 102

Breda

Breda *ſurprized by the* Spaniards 36. *Surprized by Prince* Maurice 41

C.

Cambray *beſieged* 109. *Taken* 110
The Cities of Holland *revolt to the Prince of* Orange 16
Coeverden *recovered by the* Dutch 65
Conſpiracies againſt the Prince of Orange *and the Duke of* Anjou 32
Cornelius de Wit *and his Brother maſſacr'd in* Holland 59
Battle of Caſſel 112

E.

Edict perpetual 21
Elector of Brandenburgh's *Letter to the States* 59
Engilbert *Count of* Naſſau 2
Engilbert II. *Count of* Naſſau ibid.
The great Valour of the Engliſh 104

F.

Farneſe Alexander *ſucceeds* D. J. *of* Auſtria 27
Frederic de Toledo's *Cruelties* 20
The French *quit their Conqueſts in the* Netherlands 73
Several French *Lords taken and carry'd to* Amſterdam 60

Gaunt

G.

Gaunt *beſieged* 93. *And taken* ibid.
Graves *beſieged.* 93
Gronning *beſieged by the Biſhop of* Munſter 59

H.

Harlem *taken* 22
Admiral Heyn *takes the* Cadiz *Fleet* 63
Henry *of* Naſſau 2. *He marries* Claudia de Chalon ibid.
Henry *of* Naſſau, *Brother to Prince* William, *ſlain* 21
Henry Frederic *Prince of* Orange 46. *He takes* Boiſleduc, *ibid.* Maſtricht 47. Oldenſel 62. Grol, *ibid. He marries his Son Prince* William *to the King of* England's *Daughter* 48. *His Perſonage, Wife, and Iſſue* 49
Hollanders *caſt of their Allegiance to the King of* Spain 27
Hulſt *taken* 42

I.

D. John *of* Auſtria *Governour of the* Netherlands 23. *His private Orders* 24. *He ſeizes upon* Mamur *and* Charlemont, *ibid. Defeats the States at* Gemblours 26. *But is defeated by* Boiſſut *ibid. He dies* 27

John

John *of* Naſſau *revolts to the* Spaniard 47.
Defeated at Sea ibid.
John Dewit, *his Death and Character* 59
Juliana *Counteſs of* Stolburgh, *Mother to* William *the Great* 3

K.

The King of England *proſecutes the Peace* 100.
He ſends Succours to the Spaniards 121
King of France *quits* Miſſina 124

L.

League with Holland 121
Lewis *of* Naſſau, *one of the Heads of the* Gheuſes 9. *He enters* Frieſland *with an Army* 13. *Rrouts the C. of* Aremburgh ibid. *But is routed by the D. of* Alva ibid. *He accompanies his Brother into* France 14. *He takes* Mons 17. *Surrenders it again* 18. *Defeated and ſlain by* Sancho d'Avila 21.
Leiden *Beſieged* 21. *Relieved* ibid.
Limbergh *taken by the* French 98
Duke of Luxemburgh *beaten off from the Relief of* Woerden 61. *His March over the Ice* 64. *Routed by the Prince of* Orange. 130, 131.

M.

Maeſtricht *Beſieged by the* French 67. *Taken* 61
Malecontents 27

Mary

Mary de Lalin *defends* Tourney 30
The Arch-Duke Matthias, *ſent for by the States* 25. *The Government delivered to him* 28. *Returns home again* 29
Maurice *of* Naſſau, *his Parents* 36. *His good Fortune* 41. *He takes* Hulſt 42. Groning ibid. Sluys 43. *The Battle of* Nowport ibid. *His Perſonage and Sayings* 44. *His Death.* 45
Middleburgh *taken by the* Dutch 22
The Battle of Mons 129, *&c.*

N.

Naerden *taken by the Prince of* Orange 69
The Antiquity of the Houſe of Naſſau 1
Nimmeghen *appointed the place of Treaty* 132
The Treaty of Nimmeghn *concluded* 128
William *of* Naſſau, *the Father of* William *the Great* 3. *Firſt Prince of* Orange ibid.
Nyehuiſe *taken by General* Rabenhaupt 81

O.

Otho *Count of* Naſſau 2
Otho *the Second, Count of* Naſſau ibid.
Oudenard *Beſieged* 115
St. Omers *taken* 114

P.

Philip William *of* Naſſau, *his Parents* 36. *Taken from* Lovain *by the* Spiards 37. *Carried, and detained in* Spain 16. *He kills*

his Governour 30. *Releaſed* ibid. *Sent to Conduct the Infanta* Iſabella *into* Spain ibid. *Marries* Eleonora *de* Bourbon 39. *Dies* ib.
Proſcription publiſhed by the King of Spain *againſt the Prince of* Orange 29
Propoſals for Peace between France *and* Spain 125, 126.

R.

General Rabenhaupt 81, 93.
Requſenes, *Governour of the Low Countries* 21
Riperda, *Governour of* Harlem 20

S.

The Battle of Seneff 85
The Spaniards *incline to Peace* 127
Spaniſh Netherlands *Revolt, and call in the Prince of* Orange *to their Succour* 23. *They invite the Prince to* Antwerp 140.

T.

The Third Party 27
A Toleration of both Religions 27
The Treaty of Utrecht 27
Erpez Tromp *deſtroys the* Spaniſh *Fleet in the* Downs. 48
The Truces for twenty Years concluded 184

V.

Valenciennes *Beſieged* 108. *Taken* 109

W.

W.

The Water Gheuſes 16. *They ſurprize the* Brill, ib. *They win a great Victory at Sea* 21
William *of* Naſſau, *Prince of* Orange, *his Birth, his Education, and Favor with* Charles *the* 5*th* 4, 5. *He complains of* Granville 7. *He deſires to ſurrender his Government* 8. *He retires to* Breda 10. *He refuſes* Alva's *Summons* 11. *The Reaſons of his taking Arms*, ib. *He levies an Army in* Germany 12. *He levies a ſecond Army, and croſſes the* Rhine *by ſtratagem* 13. *Offers* Alva *battel*, ib. *He diſmiſſes his Army* 14. *He goes into* France, ib. *The Counſel given him by* Coligny 14. *He enters* Brabant *with a third Army* 17. *Offers battel to the Duke of* Alva, ib. *Is like to have been ſurprized in his Bed*, 17, 18. *Diſmiſſes his Army at* Orſory, ib. *He is elected Governor by* Holland *and* Zeland, ib. *He acts with full Power in the Name of the States* 19. *His Reformations in the Government*, ib. *He erects the Univerſity of* Leyden 22. *He proteſts againſt the Perpetual Edict* 23. *Envied by ſeveral, and no leſs ſuſpected* 25. *He governs all things under the Arch-Duke* Matthias 26. *Wounded by* Javregny 31. *Recovers* 32. *He retires to* Delph 33. *Murdered by* Guerard, ib. *His Perſon and Qualities* 34. *His Wives and Iſſue* 35
William *Prince of the Son of* Maurice, *his death* 50

William Henry *Prince of* Orange, *his Birth* 50. *His noble Qualities and early Hopes* 51. *He is reſtored to his Dignities* 54, 56. *Reſtored to the Dignity of Stat-holder* 76. *His Reformations in the Cities which had been won by the* French 79. *He ſets down before* Oudenard 95. *He takes* Graves 97. *He falls ſick of the Small-Pox*, ib. *He offers* Montmorency *battel* 99. *He embattles his Army in view of the* French *King* 103. *He reſolves to attacque the King's Forces* 104. *He ſits down before* Maeſtricht ibid. *He offers Marſhal* Schomberg *battel* 106. *He marches to the Relief of St.* Omers 111. *Fights the Duke of* Orleance 112. *He ſits down before* Charleroy 115. *But raiſes his Siege* 116. *He Marries the Princeſs* Mary *of* England 119

Woerden *beſieged* 61

Z.

Zurich *Sea loſt by the* Hollanders, *and won again* 22

FINIS.

BRITISH MUSEUM 30 59